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## SQUIRE LEONARD PROCTOR, J.P. (1816 - 1895)

THE Squire was a unique figure in the annals of change ringing—only Squire Powell, of Quex Park, Birchington, can be compared with him. The latter's claim to fame, as far as we are concerned, lies almost entirely in the fact that he had a tower specially built on his private estate to contain a light ring of twelve bells, and although he secured the services of the noted William Shipway as instructor to his own men, they did not progress much further than a few peals of Grandsire Triples.

Squire Proctor, who was also a member of the Society of Cumberland Youths, added to the bells in the tower of his parish church, secured the services of another noted Cumberland Youth, Jeremiah Miller, who was afterwards succeeded by J. R. Haworth, a College Youth, and the Benington men became famous for many years as the leading band in England for their proficiency in ringing peals of Double Norwich Court Bob, Superlative, Cambridge and London Surprise.

These feats seem to be all the more remarkable when it is remembered that they were all achieved by ringers resident in one and the same small country parish. As may easily be imagined, Benington was a favourite spot with ringers. Nowhere did a ringer meet with a more cordial, hearty welcome, or with more generous hospitality, than at the Squire's house. 'The Lordship.'

It is now exactly sixty years since the death at the age of 79 of Squire Proctor, so there can only be a few men still with us who can have rung with him and his band or have seen and heard their ringing.

### LEARNT AT CAMBRIDGE

Mr. Proctor, the head of a family which had been seated at Benington for nearly three centuries, was born in January, 1816. From a very early age he took an interest in bells, as he could ring a bell in 1829 when he went to Eton, where he rang the bell at the death of George IV. After spending his schooldays at Eton College, he went in 1834 to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated in January, 1838. It was at Cambridge that he first entered on the study of the science and art of change ringing, practising chiefly on the fine ring of twelve at Great St. Mary's, the University Church.

Here was laid the foundation of that proficiency that later was to enable him to make himself master of all the best known and most admired 'crank' methods and to make his name so deservedly famous for nearly sixty years in ringing circles.

He joined the Society of Cumberland Youths in 1836 and after taking up his abode in the home of his father at Benington, he had the bells augmented to eight in 1838. They were opened by the Society on January 29th and next day a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung (conducted by E. Giles), to which he rang the tenor.

The Squire was not an infrequent visitor to his London friends and often rang at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. He would often commission J. Miller to take a band of Londoners to meet him for a day's ringing in the country.

### THE FIRST PEAL

The first peal by the Benington band was rung in 1849 and is recorded on a tablet in this manner:—

'Ye Benington bells, ye Benington bells,  
How many a tale your music tells  
Of youth and home and that glad time  
When last we heard your merry chime.  
Now time will come when we are gone,  
Your tuneful peal will still ring on,  
While other hands your tender ropes shall pull  
And strive our peal to ring which here we write in full.'

On Tuesday, November 20th, 1849, a complete peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (5,040 changes) was rung in this steeple, in three hours and one minute. This peal, one of the most difficult in the science of change ringing, and the only peal in this intricate method ever rung in the County of Hertford, was accomplished in a masterly style by the undermentioned persons all resident in this parish. James Flott, Treble; Thomas Page, 2; Leonard Proctor, 3; William Collins, 4; John Aylott, 5; Charles Hollingsworth, 6; Joseph Kitchener, 7; George Warner, Tenor. The peal was most ably conducted by Mr. J. Kitchener, and is the production of Mr. J. Miller, of the Cumberland Youths, London, and contains sixty bobs.'

A peal of 5,280 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 1851 and this appears to have been the first of Kent in the county. In 1855 two peals of Superlative were rung within ten days of each other. Only four peals in this method had been previously recorded—1821 at Huddersfield, 1835 at Norwich, 1849 at Woolwich and 1850 at Bethnal Green—and the next Superlative peal was not rung until 1877 at Redenhall.

### RINGING DAYS

The first of the Benington Superlative peals was rung on May 29th, 1855, and contained 5,376 changes. A Ringing Day was always held on this date in after years while the Squire was active, and indeed until 1940 it was the custom of the Eastern District of the Hertford County Association under the late Mr. W. H. Lawrence to hold a meeting on or near to this date, and in this, the centenary year, it would be very fitting to revive Benington's Great Ringing Day. The second of the 1855 Superlative peals was rung on June 9th and was a 6,048 by J. Cox; this stood as the longest peal in the method for thirty years when it was beaten by a 6,720 at Burton-on-Trent. Squire Proctor did not stand in the 6,048 peal, his bell was taken by J. Miller, but the rest of the band was similar to that in the other Benington peals. Joseph Kitchener called all the peals, also one of Stedman Triples in 1865, another 'first in the county.'

Perhaps the greatest achievement of the Benington band was the peal of London Surprise Major, containing 6,048 changes, which was rung in 1870. This was the third and longest peal to be rung in the method, the two previous London Surprise peals being rung at Norwich in 1835 and Woolwich in 1849. The next peal of London was not rung until 1877 at Burton-on-Trent, where the 6,048 was beaten in 1888 by a 6,720. Another great performance at Benington was the first true peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (5,600 changes) in 1873, rung over fifty years after the fifth and last of the false peals already recorded in the method, and once again the next Cambridge peal to be rung was at Burton in 1887.

The Benington peals of London and Cambridge are both recorded on the same tablet and the name of J. Miller is given as the composer of both peals, but the peal of Cambridge was actually the composition of C. Middleton rung in its transposed form. Tom Page conducted both from the tenor, Nathan Warner rang the treble, John Kitchener the second, Squire Proctor the third, Sam Page the fifth, Charles Hollingsworth the sixth and Charles Shambrook the seventh in both peals. L. Chapman rang the fourth in the Cambridge in the place of Joseph Kitchener.

### A FAMOUS BAND

This famous band opened or reopened the bells at St. Peter's, St. Albans (1868). St. Albans Abbey (1871), Galleywood, Essex (1873), Sawbridgeworth (1871), Baldock (1882) and many other places with a long length containing touches in the various standard and Surprise methods they practised. At Galleywood they rang 5,060 changes in ten methods, ranging from 336 Grandsire Triples to 448 London Surprise.

In 1876, the Squire and three of his men took part in a peal of Stedman Caters at All Saints', Hertford, composed and conducted by John Cox.

[Continued next page]



The last two peals by the Benington band were both rung in January, 1887, for the Hertford County Association. They were 6,000 Double Norwich and 6,720 Superlative, conducted by Sam Page. The Squire did not take part in either and the former peal was rung in honour of his 71st birthday.

Squire Proctor was one of the founders of the County Association in 1884 and was elected to serve as a vice-president at the first meeting under the presidency of the Bishop of St. Albans. In 1888 he was elected as president, and in 1893 at the annual meeting he was presented with a handsome marble clock and a framed illuminated address by Canon W. Wigram on behalf of the members. These gifts were left by him to posterity as a mark of the great kindness by his fellow-ringers. The clock and the framed address may still be seen in the Parish Hall at Benington, while a photograph of the Squire and his band hangs in the tower.

The Squire and his men grew old together. After he discontinued ringing, little was done in that way by them. The band were almost entirely his own servants and dependants. Benington was Mr. Proctor's world. He had few pursuits outside, and left it very seldom. Latterly he lived almost alone: he became more and more feeble, although adhering pretty much to the old routine of life, and was out of doors within two days of his death. He passed away in 1895 so quietly that even intimate friends and neighbours never heard of his being ill until they were told of his funeral.

The Society of Cumberland Youths, however, 'amid the solemnity befitting the occasion,' muffled the bells of St. Martin-in-the-Fields at the practice on Friday, March 29th, and performed the usual whole-pull-and-stand, which was followed by touches of Stedman Cinques.

#### CENTRAL COUNCIL'S APPRECIATION

The Central Council, of which he was an original member, unanimously passed the following resolution at Sheffield on Easter Tuesday, 1895: 'That this meeting desires to place on record its high appreciation of the services rendered to the Exercise by the late Leonard Proctor, Esq., of Benington, than whom no one has done more to encourage practical ringing in its highest branches.'

The late Mr. W. H. Lawrence, of Little Munden, writing in 'The Ringing World' in March, 1928, and June, 1933, referred to Benington as the Mecca of many famous men—Cox, Haley, Miller, Lobb and, in later days, Washbrook, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, W. H. Fussell, Nathan and Frederick Pitstow (not to mention J. R. Haworth) and many others were visitors, and at The Lordship the old Squire kept ever open doors to ringers. It was nothing strange years ago to hear the bells of Benington ringing upon any day of the week, for if a peal was wanted, the Squire had only to call up his men, and visitors could be accommodated with any method they required. There must have been many peals rung that are not recorded, for the ringing was kept up to a very high standard right up to the time of Mr. Proctor's death.

It was nothing out of the common for London Surprise to be rung for services, and the bells were always raised in peal before the service touch and lowered again before the service. It was done perfectly and was a treat to listen to. Benington in Squire Proctor's days had a truly wonderful band and their striking was perfect. The band visited Braughing on the anniversary of the 12,240 Bob Major peal rung there on May 10th, 1779, for fifty years without a break, and it was seldom that all the standard methods were not rung during the day, and on one or more occasions took their own bell-ropes with them.

The old Squire would often take Sam Page to various parts of England for ringing and Sam was never tired of telling of his visits to Birmingham, Warwick, Ipswich, London, Lavenham, Saffron Walden and many other places as well as of the places visited by the whole band together to open rings, etc.

Mr. Lawrence could well remember in his childhood days hearing Benington bells across the fields, striking with the regularity of machinery. The ringers had been trained in a strict school. Thomas Page had the training of his son and Sam often repeated the words of his father to him, viz., 'If I was going to be a ringer, I'd be one,' and the words were carried out to the full by both. Sam Page died in 1928, and about two years later C. Shambrook, the Squire's coachman, passed on, the last of the old band.

H. V. F.

## TEN BELL PEAL

### WORCESTER.

#### THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

#### A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 23 cwt. (approx.)

*MARTYN HAWKES .. .. Treble	WILLIAM LEWIS .. .. 6
REGINALD WOODYATT .. .. 2	ALLEN MORGAN .. .. 7
R. GEORGE MORRIS .. .. 3	THOMAS W. LEWIS .. .. 8
IVOR GOULTER .. .. 4	ARTHUR D. COOK .. .. 9
WALTER H. RAXTER .. .. 5	DAVID BEACHAM .. .. Tenor

Composed by RICHARD F. DEAL. Conducted by REGINALD WOODYATT.

\* First peal on ten bells.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS

### HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Mar. 10, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

#### A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Consisting of 1,536 changes each of Yorkshire and Cambridge and 2,016 Superlative with 132 changes of method. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN THOMAS .. .. Treble	*†RALPH HARRIS .. .. 5
*JOSEPH D. JOHNSON .. .. 2	*GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 6
MRS. J. THOMAS .. .. 3	*PATRICK HARRIS .. .. 7
*GERALD C. HEMMING .. .. 4	*JOSEPH E. NEWMAN .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

\* First peal of Spliced Surprise. † 100th peal.

### BURWASH, SUSSEX.

#### THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 12, 1955, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

#### A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Lambert's Variation of Pritchard's. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb.

JANICE E. GRENHAM .. Treble	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. 5
WILLIAM KITCHENSIDE .. 2	EDWIN BROMLEY .. .. 6
REGINALD E. LAMBERT .. 3	BENJAMIN F. BAKER .. .. 7
COLIN A. TESTER .. .. 4	ROBERT T. LAMBERT .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT T. LAMBERT.

### NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

#### THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

#### A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

ERNEST BOUMPHREY .. Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS .. .. 5
JEAN C. BROWN .. .. 2	*LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. .. 6
WILFRED STEVENSON .. .. 3	ALAN J. BROWN .. .. 7
JAMES FERNLEY .. .. 4	EDWARD JENKINS .. .. Tenor

Composed by W. E. CRITCHLEY.

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

\* First peal in the method.  
Rung as a wedding compliment to Miss J. Jones and Mr. W. Jepson who were married at this church prior to the commencement of the peal.

This composition contains the 24 5678's, 6578's, 4678's, 6478's, 4578's and 5478's.

### ERITH, KENT.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Mar. 18, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

#### A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. Treble	TREVOR A. CROSS .. .. 5
ARTHUR G. MASON .. .. 2	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. .. 6
CYRIL S. JARRATT .. .. 3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER .. .. 7
RALPH BIRD .. .. 4	FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

Rung as a birthday compliment to ringers of second and tenor.

### HORWICH, LANCASHIRE.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Mar. 18, 1955, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

#### A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*GEOFFREY FOTHERGILL .. Treble	FRED BROWNLOW .. .. 5
NORMAN TOMKINS .. .. 2	ERIC BALDWIN .. .. 6
JAMES GROUNDS .. .. 3	PETER CROOK .. .. 7
*JAMES CUNLIFFE .. .. 4	ALBERT GREENHALGH .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

\* First peal.

### BISHOP'S CLEEVE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

#### THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

#### A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.

*DEREK ASTON .. .. Treble	PETER BAKER .. .. 5
LESLIE BARRY .. .. 2	LESLIE ASTON .. .. 6
FREDERICK NURDEN .. .. 3	THOMAS BOREHAM .. .. 7
JOHN THOMAS .. .. 4	EDWIN T. NEWBURY .. Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

\* First peal of Major.

**BUCKFAST, DEVON.**  
**THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.**  
(Mid-Devon Branch.)

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE BENEDICTINE ABBEY OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

AUBREY L. BENNETT .. Treble	WILLIAM J. HARVEY .. 5
MARIELLA E. MUNDY .. 2	*GERALD A. UGLOW .. 6
REV. JOHN G. M. SCOTT .. 3	JAMES E. LILLEY .. 7
E. MAURICE ATKINS .. 4	NORMAN MALLETT .. Tenor

Composed and conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.

\* First peal of Major.

First peal in the method on the bells and rung on the front octave.

**CARBIS BAY, CORNWALL.**  
**THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANTA AND ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES**

Parker's Twelve-part.	Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb.
MARGERY BIRCH .. Treble	DOUGLAS BURNETT .. 5
FREDERICK R. ROBERTS .. 2	REV. A. S. ROBERTS .. 6
GEOFFREY W. TAYSON .. 3	CLEMENT W. JOSE .. 7
A. HUBERT EPLETT .. 4	ROBERT A. SOUTHWOOD .. Tenor

Conducted by REV. A. S. ROBERTS.

Rung with the bells half muffled to the memory of Henry Williams, late member of Truro Cathedral Company, and Mildred Beatrice Shaw, widow of the late Canon Vernon Shaw, of St. John's, Penzance, who died on the 15th and 18th of March, respectively.

**EARDISLAND, HEREFORDSHIRE.**  
**THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb.

MRS. E. CHANDLER .. Treble	WILFRED J. NEWMAN .. 5
*LESLIE EVANS .. 2	HAROLD HUXLEY .. 6
GERALD C. HEMMING .. 3	C. ARTHUR MANNING .. 7
FREDERICK R. HARRIS .. 4	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

\* 300th peal. First peal of Treble Bob on the bells.

A birthday compliment to Joseph D. Johnson, General Secretary of the Worcestershire Association, and the Rev. F. C. Champion, Rector of Hinton-on-the-Green.

**HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.**

**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**

Lambert's Variation of Pritchard's.	Tenor 10 cwt.
*KATHLEEN M. YEO .. Treble	WILLIAM R. MANSER .. 5
†WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE .. 2	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. 6
GEORGE BEENEY .. 3	LUTHER J. HONESS .. 7
†STANLEY G. PONTING .. 4	ROBERT T. LAMBERT .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT T. LAMBERT.

\* First peal on eight bells. † 75th peal in method. ‡ 25th peal.

First peal on the bells since rehanging by J. Taylor & Co.

A birthday compliment to Kathleen Yeo.

**LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.**

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.

ANNE BARR .. Treble	JEFFREY B. WEBB .. 5
EDMUND MALIN .. 2	DENNIS BERESFORD .. 6
JOAN BERESFORD .. 3	PETER BERESFORD .. 7
J. EDWARD CAWSE .. 4	GEORGE E. OLIVER .. Tenor

Composed by W. P. WHITEHEAD. Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

Rung as a compliment to Preb. H. S. Cresswell, Vicar of St. Mary's Church, on the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

**LONGSTANTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.**  
**THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF 5056 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 7½ cwt. in A flat

WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Treble	PETER BORDER .. 5
MARGARET SWANN .. 2	†IVOR J. DICKIN .. 6
*JOHN G. GIPSON .. 3	*T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 7
*GEORGE E. CRISP .. 4	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON .. Tenor

Composed by W. BARTON.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal of Surprise.

**LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.**

**THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

**A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR**

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

SAMPSON WALKLATE .. Treble	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 5
DEREK P. JONES .. 2	*ALAN G. FOSTER .. 6
DENIS R. CARLISLE .. 3	JOSEPH W. COTTON .. 7
HAROLD TAYLOR .. 4	*DAVID K. WALKLATE .. Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by DAVID K. WALKLATE.

\* First peal Yorkshire Surprise Major.

Rung as a birthday compliment to S. Walklate.

**NORTHOWRAM, YORKSHIRE.**

**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

**A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR**

In five methods: being 1,088 changes London, 1,024 Cambridge, and 992 each of Bristol, Superlative and Pudsey, with all the work of each method for every bell.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

MILTON C. FOWLER .. Treble	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY .. 5
JOHN J. L. GILBERT .. 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER .. 6
HOWARD SCOTT .. 3	J. MARTIN THORLEY .. 7
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS .. 4	NORMAN CHADDOCK .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.

The first peal of Spliced on the bells.

**PENWORTHAM, LANCASHIRE.**

**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

(Preston Branch.)

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 8 cwt.

JAMES BLACKBURN .. Treble	R. JOHN NASH .. 5
CYRIL CROSTHWAITE .. 2	FRED HOWARTH .. 6
*RICHARD PRICE .. 3	FRANK STEAD .. 7
PHILIP DUNDERDALE .. 4	G. ALEC DIMMOCK .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by C. CROSTHWAITE.

\* First peal of Major.

Rung to mark the 80th birthday of Mr. G. H. Bath, churchwarden.

**PINNER, MIDDLESEX.**

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

**A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR**

Tenor 18½ cwt.

MRS. T. J. LOCK .. Treble	JOHN R. MAYNE .. 5
*DOUGLAS C. BIRKINSHAW .. 2	*ROY WILKINSON .. 6
†SHIRLEY M. CLAYTON .. 3	W. NORMAN GENNA .. 7
MARION J. SKINNER .. 4	THOMAS J. LOCK .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by THOMAS J. LOCK.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal of Major. First peal in the method as conductor.



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PINCHBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.  
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt. 9 lb.

CHARLES C. RAWDING .. Treble	GEORGE R. G. BUTLER .. 5
BERNARD H. DALTON .. 2	AUBREY D. MILLS .. 6
JOHN G. AMES .. 3	HORACE BENNETT .. 7
W. ALLAN RICHARDSON .. 4	C. HAROLD WHITTON .. Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by C. HAROLD WHITTON.  
Rung to celebrate the birth of a son (Mark Howard) to Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Whitton.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours,

At THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr.

*GEOFFREY F. BRYANT .. Treble	JOHN F. BRYANT .. 5
VIVIAN M. COPPING .. 2	*RALPH BEAUMONT .. 6
ROBERT E. MOULDS .. 3	JOHN HENRY FIELDEN .. 7
SHEILA M. TAYLOR .. 4	VERNON BOTTOMLEY .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by GEOFFREY F. BRYANT.  
\* First peal in the method.  
Rung for Confirmation service.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours 52 Minutes,

At CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY .. Treble	JACK ASHCROFT .. 5
PETER COXALL .. 2	REV. R. D. ST. JOHN SMITH .. 6
TERRY OWEN .. 3	ARTHUR MAWDSLEY .. 7
RONALD KENRICK .. 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD .. Tenor

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE BLESSED VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 17½ cwt. in E.

JOHN M. HARRAP .. Treble	†ALAN P. CAVE .. 5
*MARGARET A. FLOYER .. 2	ROLAND W. MORANT .. 6
MARY FULLER .. 3	MARTYN W. HARBOTT .. 7
DUGALD MACPHERSON .. 4	E. JOHN WELLS .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by E. JOHN WELLS.  
\* First peal. † First peal of Plain Bob Major.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Mar. 21, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 5 lb. in A flat.

KATHLEEN SOFTLEY .. Treble	*E. ALAN RAWLINSON .. 5
*J. BRENDA SOFTLEY .. 2	*PHILIP G. DRAFFAN .. 6
MARGARET A. SOFTLEY .. 3	*ROBIN G. LEALE .. 7
*ENID SOFTLEY .. 4	FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by ROBIN G. LEALE.  
\* First peal of Little Bob.

SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Tues., Mar. 22, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation).	Tenor 6½ cwt. in B flat.
*MARGARET J. S. GOUGH .. Treble	THOMAS GWILT .. 5
VINCENT A. HEMMING .. 2	LEONARD TUFFREY .. 6
GEORGE E. FEARN .. 3	ARTHUR MORRIS .. 7
MRS. KATHLEEN WATTS .. 4	*JUNE E. KENT .. Tenor

Conducted by VINCENT A. HEMMING.  
\* First peal.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

BRAFELD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.  
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Northampton Branch.)

On Tues., Mar. 1, 1955, in 3 Hours,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE.

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, one extent of St. Clement's, two extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt. 7 lb.

ROLAND JONES .. Treble	R. GEORGE CARE .. 4
B. ERIC FROST .. 2	GEORGE F. ROOME .. 5
*ALLAN JONES .. 3	ERIC NOBLES .. Tenor

Conducted by ERIC NOBLES.

\* First peal at first attempt.

Rung on St. David's Day for the Feast of St. David.

HARROLD, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 5, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Seven extents in seven methods: College Exercise, Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Single Oxford and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb. in F sharp.

HENRY W. GAYTON .. Treble	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 4
BRYAN F. SIMS .. 2	C. HENRY HARDING .. 5
RONALD J. SHARP .. 3	STEPHEN IVIN .. Tenor

Conducted by C. HENRY HARDING.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. Henry Gayton.

KETTERINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Mar. 7, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 10 cwt.

CEDRIC CURSON .. Treble	WILLIAM CLOVER .. 4
EILEEN G. BRACEY .. 2	CHARLES H. MOORE .. 5
RAYMOND G. LOFTY .. 3	HENRY TOOKE .. Tenor

Conducted by HENRY TOOKE.

First peal on the bells.

Rung half muffled in memoriam Rev. Harold Mundy Mills, Vicar of Ketteringham, 1942-1955.

HARSTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Mar. 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

JILL I. MARTIN .. Treble	DAVID P. STUBBINGS .. 4
JANE THORPE .. 2	EUSTACE W. BULMAN .. 5
T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 3	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

TEDBURN ST. MARY, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

On Fri., Mar. 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Double Court, Double Oxford and St. Clement's and one of Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

HORACE W. J. BUTT .. Treble	HAROLD P. BURTON .. 4
FREDERICK WRE福德 .. 2	JOHN QUICK .. 5
SIDNEY SKINNER .. 3	JOHN L. S. GLANVILLE .. Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY SKINNER.

First peal on the bells.

A birthday compliment to the tenorman.

TICEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Mar. 15, 1955, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

*ERNEST J. LADD .. Treble	CHARLES A. BASSETT .. 4
BERNARD V. COLLISON .. 2	PETER N. BOND .. 5
STANLEY G. PONTING .. 3	*WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE.

\* 75th peal together.

A wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Ponting.

## NORWICH.

## THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Mar. 16, 1955, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, COLEGATE,

## A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being extents of Norfolk, Primrose, Hull, Ipswich, Cambridge, Bourne and Spiced Cambridge and Ipswich. Tenor 9 cwt.

G. ANTHONY SUTHERLAND .. Treble	RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN .. 4
H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 2	GEORGE SAYER .. 5
ARTHUR G. BASON .. 3	NOLAN GOLDEN .. Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

## DUXFORD, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thurs., Mar. 17, 1955, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

## A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Treble	CHRISTOPHER M. P. JOHNSON .. 4
T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 2	*HARRY CHURCHMAN .. 5
JOHN G. GIPSON .. 3	†JOHN HALLS .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN.

\* First peal of Stedman. † First peal.

## GREASLEY, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

## THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 14½ cwt.

FREDEICK A. SALTER .. Treble	CHARLES TOWERS .. 4
MRS. M. I. PAILING .. 2	DENIS MOTTESHEAD .. 5
J. KENNETH WAGSTAFF .. 3	JAMES H. PAILING .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. PAILING.

First peal as conductor.

## PETERCHURCH, HEREFORDSHIRE.

## THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

L. CLIVE PROSSER .. Treble	CHARLES PHILLIPS .. 4
LESLIE H. COLCOMBE .. 2	REGINALD G. POWELL .. 5
TRACEY H. YOUNG .. 3	MAURICE WALTERS .. Tenor

Conducted by TRACEY H. YOUNG.

The last peal on the bells before being taken down for restoration.

## SEDLSCOMBE, SUSSEX.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

## A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

COLIN A. TESTER .. Treble	KEVIN S. HOHL .. 4
*BETTY TESTER .. 2	ALBERT RELFE .. 5
*GEORGE FRY .. 3	JOHN W. MEADE .. Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

\* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Major.

## STAVERTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

## THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

## A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob and five extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. in G.

*DAWN V. ELSON .. Treble	*W. JOHN KINCHIN .. 4
MICHAEL F. AMOS .. 2	*ROBIN WILSON .. 5
DONALD S. PAYNE .. 3	ERNEST G. ORLAND .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST G. ORLAND.

\* First peal of Minor.

## SWINDON, WILTSHIRE.

## THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, RODBOURNE CHENEY,

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob (four callings) and 30 of Grandsire (ten callings). Tenor 8 cwt. 7 lb.

MARION HARRY .. Treble	DENNIS BOUNDS .. 4
*A. TERRY COLLINS .. 2	W. BERTRAM KYNASTON .. 5
WALTER H. TRUEMAN .. 3	*FRANK BROUGHTON .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER H. TRUEMAN.

\* First peal. Rung following the wedding of Peter Henderson and Beryl Strange, both ringers at this tower.

## WORTH, SUSSEX.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven varied extents. Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. in A.

*ALLAN J. BUTCHER .. Treble	FRANK H. HICKS .. 4
†JOHN A. HOWARD .. 2	†CLEMENT F. BONNETT .. 5
†PATRICIA M. HOWARD .. 3	IVAN A. C. BUTCHER .. Tenor

Conducted by IVAN A. C. BUTCHER.

\* First peal at first attempt. † First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

## SEALE, SURREY.

## THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Mar. 20, 1955, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being six extents of St. Simon's, 12 extents of Plain Bob, 20 extents of Grandsire and one each of Morris's and Pitman's 240's of Grandsire. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. in A flat.

*ANGELA M. HOUCHE .. Treble	†ROLAND W. MORANT .. 4
E. JOHN WELLS .. 2	†ERNEST GARDNER .. 5
†DUGALD MACPHERSON .. 3	*EDNA J. YOUNG .. Tenor

Conducted by E. JOHN WELLS.

\* First peal. † First peal in three Doubles methods. ‡ 100th peal. Rung for Mothering Sunday, also as a birthday compliment to Ernest Gardner, captain of the local band.

## PYTCHLEY, NORTHANTS.

## THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Kettering Branch.)

On Thurs., Mar. 24, 1955, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being ten extents each of Grandsire and St. Simon's and 22 of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

RICHARD J. COLES .. Treble	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 3
BASIL O. BUTLER .. 2	*RICHARD F. ROE .. 4
BRYAN S. COPE .. Tenor	

Conducted by BRYAN S. COPE.

\* First peal of Doubles.

## HANDBELL PEALS

## SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKSHIRE.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Mar. 15, 1955, in 1 Hour and 42 Minutes.

IN THE RINGING CHAMBER OF THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

## A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 720 each of St. Miles, Winchendon Place, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Columb, Grandsire, Plain Bob and Old Doubles.

D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 1-2	EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. 3-4
ALLAN SHEPPARD .. 5-6	

Conducted by ALLAN SHEPPARD.

A 21st birthday compliment to Mr. Albert Sheppard, brother of the conductor.

## NOTTINGHAM.

## THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Mar. 19, 1955, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes.

At 34, LEONARD AVENUE, SHERWOOD,

## A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Original.

*JOAN E. HOODLESS .. 1-2	BRIAN BUSWELL .. 5-6
CLEMENT GLENN .. 3-4	*ALLAN SIMPSON .. 7-8

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

\* First peal on handbells.

## BRISTOL.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Wed., Mar. 23, 1955, in 1 Hour and 48 Minutes.

At THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

## A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 11 in G.

MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING .. 1-2	DAVID J. MARSHALL .. 3-4
*ARTHUR R. WRIGHT .. 5-6	

Conducted by DAVID J. MARSHALL.

\* First handbell peal.



# QUARTER PEALS

**ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: June Grievson 1, Pamela Law 2, Mary W. Brown (cond.) 3, Diana M. Gough 4, Valerie Mephum 5, Beryl Reynolds 6. First all ladies' quarter peal rung in the tower. Rung for all mothers on Mothering Sunday.

**BALDOCK, HERTS.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: P. Flack (aged 11, first of Major) 1, S. Bonnett 2, Miss P. Hutton 3, P. Stacey 4, J. Dear (cond.) 5, W. Collins 6, E. Buck 7, C. Harwood 8.

**BARLBOROUGH, DERBYS.**—On Mar. 19th, 1,440 Minor (720 Kent, 720 Oxford): J. Bunting 1, A. Tomlinson 2, D. Smedley 3, E. Sturman 4, C. Heeley 5, A. Ashby (cond.) 6. Rung for the wedding of Miss G. Smith, once a ringer at this tower.

**BARWELL, LEICS.**—On Mar. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Wilebore 1, P. E. Hough 2, A. A. Lucas 3, J. L. Hough (cond.) 4, C. R. Belton 5, T. K. Deacon 6, G. P. Garner 7, A. H. Hough 8.

**BILTON, WARWICKS.**—On Mar. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. W. Phillips (first quarter) 1, Miss P. Wincott 2, Miss P. Burnell 3, W. E. Burnell 4, D. G. Thrush (cond.) 5, D. R. Taylor 6. Rung for Confirmation service.

**BRENCHLEY, KENT.**—On Mar. 15th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Miss B. Tester 1, C. A. Tester 2, W. Durham 3, F. Bromley 4, A. Bromley 5, R. E. Lambert 6, E. Bromley 7, R. T. Lambert (first of Cambridge Surprise Major as cond.) 8. First of Cambridge Major for 1, 2 and 6. Rung as a farewell to Leonard Pearce, a local ringer, who is leaving the village.

**BRISTOL.**—On Mar. 19th, at St. Werburgh's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: B. Grinter (cond.) 1, F. C. Mogford 2, B. W. S. Angell 3, A. R. Wright 4, D. V. Smith 5, R. J. Bowden 6.

**CALNE, WILTS.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss R. Maundrell 1, Miss B. Hacker 2, H. Burry 3, W. Hacker 4, R. Saye 5, R. Barry 6, H. Parkes (cond.) 7, W. Haines 8. Rung for Mothering Sunday, and as a compliment to the conductor.

**CANFORD MAGNA, DORSET.**—On Mar. 13th, 1,272 Kent Treble Bob Minor: F. Barton 1, M. Frewer 2, L. Pink 3, H. Pitman 4, W. Shute (cond.) 5, C. Chant 6. Rung for Confirmation service.

**CANNINGTON, SOMERSET.**—On Mar. 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Webber 1, L. Pople 2, F. Fackerell 3, H. Pople 4, W. Stevens (cond.) 5, W. Hayward 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mr. G. D. Ward, headmaster of Cannington School, 1924-1952, whose funeral took place the previous day.

**CAPE TOWN, S. AFRICA.**—At St. Mary's Church, Woodstock, on Mar. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: V. Sheppard 1, C. Gardiner 2, W. J. Smith 3, J. Riley 4, J. G. Wood 5, L. Hewitt 6, R. H. Stickley (first as cond.) 7, J. Ernsten 8. First for all the band except conductor. Longest length of Triples in Africa since December, 1904. Rung as a mark of appreciation to the Rev. W. H. Cummings (Rector) and the Rev. J. Ensor (assistant priest) and to the previous Rector (Canon W. R. Way) for their support and interest.

**CHEDDAR, SOMERSET.**—On Mar. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles, with 7, 6, 8 covering: R. Pavey 1, Marion Macfarlane 2, W. Sargent 3, E. C. Wickham 4, Marjorie Legg (cond.) 5, R. Button 6, E. J. Small 7, J. Hudson 8. A compliment to Mr. E. J. Fisher on his 81st birthday.

**COLCHESTER, ESSEX.**—On Mar. 14th, at St. Leonard's Church, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: V. Howe 1, Eva Appleby 2, F. G. Oliver 3, W. Brunt 4, B. Fairhead 5, H. J. Millatt (cond.) 6. First quarter 'inside' for 2 and 4. Also on Mar. 20th, at St. Peter's Church, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: Mrs. R. Rouse 1, Pauline A. Nice (first in method) 2, A. R. Andrews 3, Brenda M. Balls (first of Surprise 'inside') 4, E. P. Duffield 5, J. H. Edwards 6, H. J. Millatt (cond.) 7, E. E. Davey 8. Rung for Mothering Sunday.

**DISS, NORFOLK.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: Kathleen Harrison 1, Betty Syrett (first in method) 2, J. B. Morley (first in method as conductor) 3, A. G. Harrison 4, C. R. Catchpole 5, H. Moss 6, C. F. W. Philippo 7, A. E. Cook 8. Rung for Mothering Sunday.

**FULHAM, S.W.**—On Mar. 13th, 1,222 Stedman Caters: B. Lunn 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, W. Rawlings 3, J. Sansom 4, W. S. Langdon 5, J. Chilcott (cond.) 6, A. B. Peck 7, T. Setter 8, J. Waters 9, James Phillips 10.

**GRANTHAM, Lincs.**—On Mar. 2nd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: B. Buttery 1, Mrs. K. Ketteringham 2, B. Hunt 3, R. Read 4, F. W. Pinchbeck 5, D. A. Frith (cond.) 6, K. Ketteringham 7, H. R. Woods 8. First of Major for 1, 2, 3 and 4. Rung for the wedding anniversary of ringers of 2 and 7.

**GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: P. W. Croft 1, W. F. Todd 2, K. C. Timbury 3, R. Head 4, F. W. Croft (cond.) 5, G. Cherry 6. Rung for Mothering Sunday.

**GRIMSBY, Lincs.**—On Mar. 15th, at the Church of St. James, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (with 6 and 8 covering): H. Hadwick 1, A. Pasbly 2, G. I. Rusby 3, J. B. Budd 4, F. Kennington 5, R. Drury 6, S. Bromfield (cond.) 7, T. Robinson (first quarter) 8. Rung for Confirmation service.

**GROBY, LEICS.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: J. Spencer 1, T. Gardner 2, E. Geary 3, W. Geary 4, V. Geary 5, S. Gardner (cond.) 6. Rung in honour of the wedding of Derek Dodson and Elizabeth Fallon on March 12th.

**HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.**—On Mar. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. Hunnisset 1, W. Stepney 2, E. Hobden 3, E. E. Breed 4, G. Gadd (cond.) 5, C. Booth 6. A 70th birthday compliment to Mr. F. Blackman.

**HORSELL, SURREY.**—On Mar. 18th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss D. Gibbons 1, Miss P. Drury 2, D. Wright (first of Bob Minor 'inside') 3, G. Oliver 4, J. R. Worrall (cond.) 5, J. Martin 6.

**LONG BUCKBY, NORTHANTS.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Eales 1, Miss R. Pebody 2, R. S. Hollad 3, M. F. Amos 4, E. G. Orland (cond.) 5. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Frederick Bandey, for 36 years organist of this church.

**LUTON, BEDS.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,277 Grandsire Caters: Enid Preston 1, A. E. Rushton (cond.) 2, June Gladman 3, J. G. Rushton 4, J. Herbert 5, W. Bottrill 6, J. Scott 7, H. Wood 8, R. Kendall 9, A. J. Smith 10. Rung for evening service and as a compliment to June Gladman and Kenneth L. Brown on their engagement.

**LUTTON, Lincs.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Delahoy 1, P. Butler 2, Mrs. G. R. G. Butler 3, Mrs. P. W. Campling 4, G. R. G. Butler (cond.) 5, W. G. Knight (first quarter) 6. Rung for Mothering Sunday, also the birthday of the conductor, and a welcome home for the ringer of the 2nd from National Service.

**NORTH BRADLEY, WILTS.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Knight (first quarter of Triples) 1, J. Hunt 2, A. Knight 3, P. Harding (cond.) 4, C. Barber 5, R. Harding 6, L. Hitchins 7, J. Case 8. Rung for Evensong, and as a welcome home to C. Barber from service in Korea.

**NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.**—On Mar. 16th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: C. W. Barnes 1, R. E. Finch 2, D. C. Jackson 3, M. E. L. Beamish 4, P. Nash 5, J. M. Lakin (cond.) 6. First of Cambridge Minor by all except the 4th. Rung on the front six.

## 5,088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

BY H. POYNER

23456 B M W H

52436 — — 3

63425 — — —

32654 X — —

36524 — — 2

23564 — — —

Twice repeated.

True to any method with 24365 as sole F.C.H. and 5738264 the first lead-head. Rung at Leicester on January 10th, 1955.

**PAKENHAM, SUFFOLK.**—On Mar. 19th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: L. Pierce 1, M. King 2, L. Sharpe 3, E. Bishop 4, K. G. Brown (cond.) 5.

**PENDLEBURY, LANCs.**—On Mar. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Renee Aspden (first quarter) 1, N. Tompkins 2, R. Bagnall 3, A. Lomas 4, G. Gee 5, J. Thornley 6, P. Crook, sen. (cond.) 7, F. Jones 8.

**PORTSMOUTH.**—On Mar. 13th, at St. Mary, Portsea, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Marlon Parker 1, J. D. Harris 2, R. Parker 3, T. R. Taylor 4, A. York-Bramble 5, L. D. Duguid 6, F. W. Rogers (cond.) 7, A. T. Greenwood 8. First of Surprise for 1 and 3.

**QUADRUP, Lincs.**—1,080 Oxford Treble Bob and 180 Plain Bob: Mrs. A. Richardson 1, J. E. Allen 2, C. Wander (cond.) 3, S. V. Woods 4, G. Pearson 5, S. E. Bennett 6. For the induction of the Rev. Mr. Burden.

**RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS.**—On Mar. 21st, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 780 Grandsire): Angela E. Berry 1, P. Hart 2, F. W. Elliott 3, H. A. Bradbury 4, D. C. Bartholomew (cond.) 5, D. R. Bartholomew (first quarter) 6. First quarter to be rung by an all local band for a number of years. A birthday compliment to the tenor ringer.

**ROMFORD, ESSEX.**—On Mar. 8th, 1,320 Plain Bob Doubles: H. F. Perry 1, Mrs. E. Merrett 3, L. W. Bullock (cond.) 4, J. Merrett 5, J. Barrance (first of Doubles 'inside') 6, J. R. Brice 7, S. Smith 8. A birthday compliment to Mrs. E. Merrett.

**ROWBERROW, SOMERSET.**—On Mar. 19th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: G. R. Cox 1, C. Reason 2, R. Williams 3, F. S. Paramore (cond.) 4, K. Collier 5, W. Wiseman 6.

**SIDBURY, DEVON.**—On Mar. 19th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. Coles (first quarter) 1, K. Clarke 2, R. C. Woodley (cond.) 3, E. Pinn (first 'inside') 4, A. Chown 5, E. J. Summers 6, G. C. Woodley 7, R. Butt 8. Rung for the marriage of the daughter of Mr. L. Lockyer, a former ringer at Sidbury.

**ST. IPPOLYTS, HERTS.**—On Mar. 13th, 1,440 Plain Bob and Oxford Bob Minor: S. H. Ashton 1, Marion Jackson 2, R. Head 3, G. Cherry 4, A. C. Harris 5, F. W. Croft (cond.) 6. Rung for Evensong.

**TODMORDEN, LANCs.**—At Christ Church, on Mar. 13th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: P. Schofield 1, R. Cryer 2, G. Cheetham 3, J. Halstead 4, C. R. Milthorpe (first 'inside') 5, D. Sanderson (first of Minor as cond.) 6, N. Barker (tenor covering). First of Minor for 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7.

**UPPER CLAPTON, Es.**—At the Church of St. Matthew, on Mar. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss N. Hales 1, Miss G. L. Friswell 2, J. A. Hales 3, W. F. Jarvis 4, J. Hales 5, G. A. Parsons 6, D. Neal (cond.) 7, C. F. Neal 8. Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to Charles Alfred Neal, father of ringers of 7 and 8, who passed away on March 9th.

**WALLINGTON, HERTS.**—On Mar. 19th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: P. Flack (aged 11, first of Treble Bob) 1, P. Stacey 2, E. Buck 3, Miss P. Hutton (first of Treble Bob as cond.) 4, J. Dear 5, C. Harwood 6.

**WIMBLEDON, SURREY.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (7, 6, 8 covering): C. Wilkinson 1, Mrs. Devenish 2, M. Sinden 3, P. Devenish 4, F. Corfield (cond.) 5, Margaret Ward 6, J. Tomsett 7, A. Bishop 8.

**WOLVERCOTE, OXON.**—On Mar. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss V. Godwin 1, W. F. Holloway (cond.) 2, W. Godwin 3, A. D. Eden (first quarter) 4, K. E. White 5, A. E. Ivings 6. Rung as a wedding compliment to Miss R. Chamberlain and M. Bushnell, both Sunday service ringers.

**WOOLWICH, S.E.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: T. E. Culver 1, A. Grove, sen., 2, Bdr. D. Holland 3, R. A. Johnson 4, M. Parry (cond.) 5, B. W. Aldridge 6. Rung for evening service on Mothering Sunday, and in honour of the newly-born son to the Rev. T. E. Roberts, of Holy Trinity Church, Woolwich, who was the preacher at this service.

**YATESBURY, WILTS.**—On Mar. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. O. Booth 1, B. Preston (first quarter) 2, J. Frampton (first quarter) 3, F. Preston (cond.) 4, G. Pratt 5. Birthday compliments to R. Rouse, now serving in H.M. Forces, and B. Presto.

**ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD**

Members from all parts of the Diocese congregated at Llanelly on March 12th for a quarterly meeting of the Guild.

At the service in the Parish Church the Rev. E. A. B. Hughes officiated, assisted by the Rev. T. L. Bowen, with Mr. Vivian Thomas at the organ. Tea at the Parish Hall was enjoyed by 45 members.

The Rev. E. A. B. Hughes, at the business meeting, extended a hearty welcome to the members of the Guild to Llanelly. Owing to another appointment he had to leave the meeting early, and Mr. Ed. J. Thomas, of Carmarthen, the grand old stalwart, consented to take the chair. His ability and jovial humour enabled the agenda to be quickly disposed of. The usual touch on the handbells was given by members from Llandilo and Mr. A. Hoare. The next quarterly meeting will be held at Llanbadarn Fawr on September 10th. Ten new members were initiated into the Guild. A collection for the Bell Restoration Fund realised the sum of £1 5s. Apologies for inability to attend the meeting through illness were received from the Master, Mr. H. Jenkins, of Tenby, and Mr. W. J. Harris, of Llanbadarn Fawr.

The secretary reminded the members of the annual meeting on June 25th. A bus would be chartered to take the members from St. Peter's Church to the Palace and back.

The secretary also reminded the members of the competition at Haverfordwest.

A hearty vote of thanks was extended to the ladies who waited at the tea by Mr. A. Hoare, and also to Mr. Ed. J. Thomas for presiding at the meeting in a very able way.

**A RESIDENT PEAL AT BUCKFAST ABBEY**

The peal of Bob Major rung at Buckfast Abbey on March 19th was of special interest to those who took part, as it was the first peal to be rung there by a band entirely resident in Devon.

In view of the time allotted to the band it was decided to ring the front octave, and it was fortunate that this was done as the bells did not come into rounds until after 5.45 p.m. and all ringing had to be finished at 6 p.m.

It was appropriate, too, that Messrs. Harvey, Uglow and Mallett were in the band, as they only took up change ringing since the war and had received their early instruction mainly in the Mid-Devon Branch.

A word of praise is due to Miss Mundy for the excellent way she rang. She is the first resident lady to ring a peal at the Abbey. The distinction of being the first lady, however, to ring a peal there belongs to Mrs. J. Thomas, of Evesham, Worcestershire.

A. L. B

**Gratefully Acknowledged**

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations towards the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—Anon. 3s., Anon. 10s.

Peals.—Sherburn-in-Elmet 1s. 6d., Alford 3s., Penwortham 4s.

Quarter Peals.—Swindon 2s. 6d., Cape Town 7s., Cheddar 2s. 6d., Sidbury 2s. 6d., Rowberrow 2s. 6d., Luton 2s. 6d., North Bradley 4s., Barlborough 5s., Barwell 2s. 6d., Yatesbury 2s. 6d., Calne 2s. 6d., Groby 2s., Bilton 3s., Canford Magna 3s., Bristol 3s., Hailsham 2s.

**HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION**

The St. Albans District held its March meeting at Harpenden on the 19th in bright, sunny weather, if a little cold. It was a pity that only a couple of dozen ringers turned up, as the pleasantly situated church has a good octave and the welcome given is always worthy of strong support by visitors. Ringing ranged from rounds to Bristol, with plenty in between for keen beginners.

Tea was in the Church Hall, adjoining the churchyard, and was very well provided by the local ringers and their wives. At the business meeting, presided over by Mr. H. V. Frost, details of the A.G.M. at Watford, in April, were announced, and Knebworth for May 21st and Barnet and Hadley for June 18th were suggested as forthcoming meetings.

G. D.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION**

Although the bells at St. George's Church, Jesmond, are seldom rung, they were in good shape for the Northern District meeting.

Mr. McGuinness prepared an admirable tea, and afterwards a business meeting was held. Miss Joan Hall was elected as 'The Ringing World' representative for the District, and Mr. R. Worsdall was elected a member. The date of the annual outing was fixed as August 1st.

The younger members came to the fore after tea and, following some first-class tuition, rang a perfect touch for the service.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH

# The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS



# 'THE RINGING WORLD'

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Council of Church Bell Ringers

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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Mr. Jack Thomas planned a peal attempt of Holt's Original, rung silent, for a band of veterans, each over 70. On the day fixed for the meeting half the band were ill in bed. Perhaps when spring really arrives the band will be fit.

## BELFRY

Mr. C. Crossthwaite 'completed the circle' of St. Mary's, Penwortham, on March 19th, when he called a peal of Plain Bob Major from the second.

Mr. Arthur York, tower captain of Alsager, received a very cordial welcome when he attended the meeting of the Crewe Branch at Church Lawton on his wonderful recovery from a broken neck.

The A.M.C. of the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows will be held at Hastings this year. Bro. W. Frank Stenson hopes that ringing delegates will take advantage of the many eights in the neighbourhood.

After the last Hailsham peal the ringers gathered at the home of Miss K. Yeo (whose 17th birthday was celebrated by her first peal on eight) and were royally entertained. The centre piece of a delicious spread was an iced cake in the form of a bell emblazoned with the Sussex martlets.

It was a very happy and lucky wedding that coincided with a meeting of the Crewe Branch of the Chester Guild at All Saints', Church Lawton, on March 19th. After the service the bride and bridegroom were greeted by the bells, including 'firing.' In welcoming the ringers to Church Lawton, the new Rector, the Rev. I. T. Wilson, said how pleased he was that the meeting coincided with the wedding, as no two young people were more deserving of the honour and compliment of the bells. It was a very happy meeting, 50 sitting down to tea.

## GOSSIP

Mr. Cyril Chambers, of Durban, arrives in England on April 6th, and his home address will be 2, Hall Street, Kidderminster. He returns to South Africa on June 23rd on the Arundel Castle. We hope his engagements will permit him to attend the Central Council meeting at Bristol. Ringers will be pleased to meet one who has kept the flag of change ringing flying at Durban for so many years.

Congratulations to Mr. Roland W. Morant, of Guildford, on ringing his 100th peal.

The bells of Peterchurch, Herefordshire, are to be restored. The last peal on the bells in their present position was rung on March 19th.

The fact that there were no Sunday newspapers this week has enabled quite a number of ringers to put in a little quiet study on Central Council's resolutions and decisions.

Trull, Somerset, has lost a ringer of 50 years' standing by the death of Mr. A. S. Pyke. A quarter peal to his memory was rung on March 21st.

Re footnote to peal at Bournemouth on March 4th (page 182, 'Ringing World'), this should read 'First attempt on handbells,' as Valerie and three other Burnham girls took part in a four-method peal of Minor at Hitcham, Bucks, on May 3rd, 1946. Come on, Valerie, have you forgotten?—and sorry, Daniel.—G. G.

To those visiting South Africa: At Durban contact Mr. John Maeder, phone 37998 (home), or 21281 (business); at Cape Town Mr. W. J. Smith, 26114 (business), or 96117 (home), or Mr. V. Sheppard, 29571 (business). Cape Town ringers enjoy the two-monthly visits of Messrs. Spencer and Walker, who are officers in the Merchant Navy.

# THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

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## TOPIC FOR THE MONTH - III.

### Instructional Manual

**I**F you are an expert ringer and/or instructor you won't find much that's new in what follows, but in that case it may enlist your valuable help. If you are less expert the proposals may evoke at least your sympathy.

It is axiomatic that the clever exponent of an art is not necessarily a good teacher of it. The converse also is true. Teaching employs specialised techniques, however, in combination with both knowledge and experience; but chiefly it requires the 'know-how' of entering into the pupil's mind and influencing it. Teachers who get the results that present-day standards demand are trained in the business.

So what? Is this a complaint that the Exercise has no real teachers of ringing—no instructors, in fact? Far from it! There have always been good ringing instructors and many fine pupils they have turned out; and to-day there is a goodly number of instructors, active and potential. Also it is probable that there are now in the Exercise more professional teachers who are good ringers than there have ever been. The Universities' Association of Change Ringers, in which there are many members of this profession, looks particularly to such members to use their professional skill and knowledge in the spreading of our Art; and they, together with others, first class instructors, are rendering a valuable service in this field.

But (and it's no good beating about the bush!), there are too many towers without an instructor, and too many more in which the instruction has obviously been faulty. In short, the average standard of ringing (and this doesn't mean the ringing of advanced methods), is not at a level with which the Exercise could conscientiously rest content.

Apart from an insufficiency of capable instructors there is the lack of just that type of written material that would help to fill the gaps. Now, of course, this is no reflection on the available publications, including, for example, the introductory chapters in Snowdon's 'Rope-sight', and the Central Council's excellent pamphlet on rope-handling entitled 'Hints for Instructors and Beginners,' compiled by Mr. Joe Dyke and others. But there are other aspects of the full course of training that, in the absence of experienced instructors, ought to be covered by written advice and guidance. In ringing, as in any advancing art, accumulating experience evolves new ways of approach and treatment; the general use of which is not merely advisable but essential, if optimum results from instruction are to be got. Does not such consideration indicate the need for a comprehensive and standardised work—a Manual of Instruction?

The need is most obvious, perhaps, in some rural areas; but in some urban towers, too, it is evident. How many of us, happy visitors in those friendly towers we have been privileged to enter, have not (now and again) been disappointed to find, amongst keenness and patience personified, those obvious signs of misguided effort and uninformed tuition? Poor, awkward styles of bell-handling; apparent ignorance of 'negative pull' or braking action; faulty control; beginners put into rounds even before they can 'balance' the bell after each stroke; indifferent striking; inability to get beyond a certain stage—even tenor-behind; abnormal 'wastage' of learners through lack of interest-maintenance, or sympathetic instructorship, or both; badly graduated training, or lack of any realistic scheme; little or no corrective instruction; improvers allowed to attempt tricky methods before they've learned to strike properly—these are some of the unfortunate brakes on the wheel of progress, contributing

to the failure of numbers of beginners to 'stay the course,' and of others ever to become good ringers, even in the simpler methods. And the Exercise can't afford to lose one trainee, or leave one half-trained, even; we need them all. In some areas, if the bells are to serve the Church at all, the need is desperate.

But even where they 'only just manage Grandsire' (or whatever simple ringing they achieve for 'service') there is no reason why this should not be of the best possible performance, so long as they know *what* to aim for, and *how* to work for it. Any learner tends to acquire faults. The good instructor spots them immediately, and is able to take corrective action before they develop. If the learner's mind is sufficiently impressed by the correction he eliminates the error; but the degree of impression, and therefore of elimination, depends entirely on how forcefully the correction is introduced. A crisp, perhaps even startling, admonition is often better than a lecture. Good examples of this precept in practice are to be found here and there: they need to be collected and 'broadcast.'

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

### Preliminary Notice

The second session of the 22nd Council (58th annual meeting) will be held at Bristol on Whitsun Tuesday, May 31st, 1955.

In accordance with Rule 13, notices of motion, signed by two members of the Council, must be received by the secretary not later than six weeks prior to the meeting.

Details of other arrangements will be given later.

E. A. BARNETT,  
Hon. Secretary.

Here, for instance, are some snappy injunctions more recently introduced against age-old faults:—

'Little finger on fore-finger!' (To get upper hand against lower hand in gripping rope.)  
'Lost rope!' (When upper hand fails instantly and almost imperceptibly to change grip between strokes.)

'Elbows to ear-tops!' (To correct too low a grip on the rope, at either stroke.)

'Pull down to thighs!' (For getting lower part of a full stroke.)

'Stroke down the buttons!' (For correcting rope throw-out.)

'Handcuffs!' (A good test of upper-hand action at the grip-change is to imagine the wrists linked by handcuffs, thus preventing the upper hand 'waving in mid-air'.)

And as to the 'Stance'—how many beginners are taught the 'three points of approach' to be observed before even untying the rope?

It seems almost exceptive to quote the very few foregoing items from what could be a considerable collection of tips and useful experiences in instructing; not merely for the section related, but for all the others of a full course of instruction. One has been able to collect and test a good many such, and has, in the past, published a large part of them and other details of tuition. But throughout the Exercise, among the many magnificent ringers and wonderfully successful instructors, there must be a wealth of brilliant ideas and first-class practical advice, awaiting collection and dissemination. A capable instructor, knowing and using this distillation of experience, will do for his pupils what no book ever could do: show them exactly how it is to be done.

There are, of course, more ways than one of setting about the job; but let us assume the

compilation of a work that could serve both as a Manual for Instructors and as a Guide to Self-teaching; i.e., for the leader of a newly formed band where no instructor is available. It might then be planned on some such scheme as the following, wherein the suggested ten sections show the chapter headings and the topics in each:—

**I. Introductory.** Familiarisation: The mechanics of ringing: Observing, in bell-chamber, a bell actually rung, and in the ringing chamber a proficient ringer on the rope: The production of 'changes': Use of handbells for demonstration and for training the ear.

**II. Bell Handling and Control.** Stance: Grips: Arm motions: The (upper) quick-hand change: The strokes—*independent* and *con-joint*: Solo handling: Bell-balancing (between strokes): Raising and lowering, solo.

**III. Striking.** Ringing in rounds (on 3rd): Covering (1 and 2 dodging): Dodging (with 2nd): The use of the ear, always: Leading off the Tenor: The art of striking—*timing by ear*: Raising and lowering in peal.

**IV. Elements of Method Ringing.** (Still on 3rd bell) Place-making, as a whole-pull-only form of 'covering' (already learnt): Hunting down (from 3rds place), Leading, Hunting up (to 3rds again): The three different rhythms in the striking: Dodging (with 4th): Perfection of hunting, dodging, place-making.

**V. First Method Ringing.** Welding of the elements just learnt into Stedman Doubles: Proceeding to a hunt-controlled method, say, Plain Bob: etc.

**VI. The Learning of Methods.** Elementary Principles of Method Structure: Types of Methods: 'Signposts' and checks for the ringing of methods: Importance of 'home-work': Inter-relationship of 'Blue Line' elements: Division-*end* positions: The habit of close concentration.

**VII. Practical Method Ringing.** Paramount importance of the ear: Hearing the hunt-bell, and the striking: Timing the strokes: Rhythmic pulls: Visualising the path ahead: Looking for the signposts and the lead-ends or division-ends: Checking position: Cyclics: The team spirit: Etiquette of speaking.

**VIII. Elementary Composition.** The Bob as a course-builder and the Single as a phase-reverser: Round blocks and Q-sets: Composition of simple touches: Study of peal compositions: Proof: Transposition: Varying and Reversing.

**IX. Elements of Conducting.** Picking up the coursing orders and noting the positions of the Conductor's calls, and their effects: (Continued practice before attempting calling.) Learning the composition: Precision of the call-out: Watching and listening for trips: Checking 'key-changes' by eye, by ear and by both: Calling Round.

**X. Training for Leadership.** Sizing up the pupil and getting to know the ringers: Precept and example: Tact and discipline: Self-criticism: Tower etiquette: Public relations: etc.

Assuming the work to be sponsored by the Central Council, it might be placed in the hands of the Literature and Press Committee or of an Editorial Panel responsible to them. Then an invitation to the Exercise at large for contributions would no doubt produce a large quantity of very valuable material—some for a plan for the whole work; some for perhaps a complete chapter; some for a varied or fuller synopsis of the chapters; some for a topic or topics within one or more chapters; and some perhaps for only a few hints and tips. But all would be of some value, no doubt. What do you feel about the whole idea? And what about short refresher courses for Instructors?

A. Y-B.  
(Your post-card comments, headed 'Manual,' are welcomed.—Ed.)



# PEAL RINGING IN LANCASHIRE

By The Rev. K. W. H. FELSTEAD

**A**FTER Kent, we come to another county where lots of peals have been rung—Lancashire. This county also has the most rings of 12 bells of all the counties (five), and this is also the fourth in the list for 10-bell towers (Middlesex, Surrey and Yorkshire have more than Lancashire's nine). When tabulating the peals I was rather mystified by two towers which did not appear in Dove's book, and it was also difficult at times to differentiate between Newchurch and Newchurch in Rossendale. The mystery of the two towers was later resolved—they no longer exist and the bells have been removed elsewhere, but I wouldn't like to be certain of having credited the Newchurch peals to their proper towers! The county is also noteworthy for the number of rings in Roman Catholic churches. There are only 25 (I think) in all the British Isles, and ten of them are in Lancashire.

But now for figures. Worsley (10) is the tower with the greatest number of peals, having just passed the 200 mark since 1881. Its total is 206. It is one of four 10-bell towers which were eighties at the beginning of the period and was quite popular as such, 65 peals coming from 1883 to 1916. Thirty-three more were rung before augmentation in the early 1930's, but it certainly blossomed forth after the trebles were added for 32 peals were rung in the four years just before the last war and there have been 76 since 1944.

No less than ten other towers have reached the century mark, and only Suffolk can beat this total of 11 towers with more than 100 peals rung at them, with 12. All the ten are under the 150 mark with Deane (eight) leading the list with 147. This tower shows a general feature of the county in having more peals before the 1914-18 war than since. Many of the towers which will be mentioned will indicate that peal ringing was more popular at them 50 years ago than until very recent times. Some are, however, maintaining a better average again nowadays. At Deane, 84 peals were rung from 1896 to 1916 and there were 58 from 1917 to 1934. (I said in my article on Hampshire that I thought North Stoneham was the only church to score peals every year of the first war, but I find I am wrong, for Deane also did.) There have been only five peals since then, in 1948 and 1949.

## MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL

Manchester Cathedral (10) has 145. No less than 52 were rung in the 1880's, and a further 39 from 1891 to 1911. Thirty-three were rung between the wars and there have been 21 since 1945, so the average is better again now. Ashton-under-Lyne, St. Peter's (8), has 142. Eighty-five of these were rung in the last century, including a 10,000 of Kent Treble Bob Major. Of the 57 rung this century, 28 have come since 1944, so things are looking up here, too. This tower is very closely followed by its next door neighbour, Ashton, St. Michael's (12), with 138. Ninety-seven were rung between 1881 and 1915, 27 more from 1917 to 1934, and 14 from 1947 to 1953 (none in 1954). Several record lengths have been rung here including 15,312 Cambridge Surprise Maximus, 14,000 Kent Treble Bob Royal, 12,240 Kent Treble Bob Maximus and 10,075 Grandsire Cinques.

Apart from Liverpool, St. Nicholas' (12), all the remaining centenarians are 8-bell towers. At St. Nicholas' the 100 has just been reached with the last peal there. The best period was from 1919 to 1939, when 81 of the peals were rung. There have been 11 in the last two years since the bells were restored. The re-

maining 8-bell centenarians in order of number of peals are Pendleton (132—75 from 1885 to 1915, 50 from 1918 to 1932, and seven in the last three years); Oswaldtwistle (126—11 when it was a 6-bell tower before 1913, including a 10,000, 77 from 1913 to 1938 (none in 1918), and 38 since 1944); Oldham, Moor-side (129—45 before 1914, 44 from 1914 to 1940, and 40 since 1944); Walkden (103—54 from 1898 to 1915, 41 between the wars and eight since 1948). The 10th tower is Eccles; 108 were rung here up to the mid 1920's (76 last century and 27 from 1900 to 1914) but then, I believe, the bells from St. John's, Deansgate, Manchester (which is one of the two mystery towers mentioned above), were placed in the tower, since when 27 peals have been rung—24 from 1929 to 1934 and eight since the war. I will leave readers to argue whether peals should be credited to the tower or the bells, as far as my articles are concerned, at any rate.

Two towers are nearing the 100 mark. Halewood has 96, spread evenly over the whole period, and Bolton, Holy Trinity, has 94. Only seven had been rung before 1914 in the 30 years from the first peal recorded there, but it has been doing well since the last war, for 36 peals have come since then.

## MANCHESTER TOWN HALL

The two 12-bell towers not already mentioned have been having their best times since 1945. At Manchester Town Hall 23 of the 47 peals have been rung since then (it was a 10-bell tower until the middle 1930's), whilst at Oldham 11 of the 37 peals come from the last eight years, the remaining 26 being spread out from 1890 to 1938. Only very brief mention can be made of the remaining seven 10-bell towers, of which only Blackburn Cathedral has passed the half-century, with 65 peals. Half of these were rung before 1914 and 10 from 1947 to 1952. Three of the seven were 8-bell towers at first—Preston, St. John's (32 peals in all, 11 since the war), Wigan 25 peals, nine last century, seven from 1948 to 1952), and Leyland, St. Andrew's (13, six on the eight from 1901 to 1925, four on the ten in the 1930's, and four more in 1946, 1947 and 1955). The remaining three are St. Helens, whose bells came from St. Peter's, Liverpool (the second 'mystery' tower), where 25 peals were rung on them from 1881 to 1894, and one more in 1905 (at St. Helens, 33 peals have come since 1929, 20 since the war); Dalton-in-Furness (27 peals—all since 1928, and 13 since 1947) and Lancaster R.C. Cathedral (13—two in 1883 and 1884, then a gap to 1935, and ten since 1945).

## MOST 8-BELL TOWERS

Ten 8-bell towers have already been mentioned, but it is difficult to pick out others to talk about since there are so many of them. Actually, Lancashire has more 8-bell towers than any other county and easily the highest proportion of them to the total number of towers of any county with large numbers of bells (Cumberland has 15 eights out of 20 towers, which is a higher proportion in the counties with few bells). Without mentioning how they are distributed through the years, here are the numbers of peals in towers which come next to those already discussed:—Bolton, St. Peter's (86); Oldham, Glodwick (78); Manchester, St. John's, Miles Platting (77); Aughton, Christ Church, and Blackburn, St. Michael's (76); Bacup, St. Saviour's, and Ormskirk (75); Milnrow (74); Southport, Christ Church (72); and Middleton (71). At Newchurch in Rossendale an interesting point is that of the 46 peals rung between 1887 and

1914 all were Grandsire Triples except the last. All the nine peals at Halliwell (commencing 1897) have also been in this method.

As for 6-bell towers, Accrington and Halsall easily lead the way. The former has 61 and the latter 60 peals—nearly double any of the others. In both cases 80 per cent. of the peals have been rung since 1944, so they are both doing very well at the moment. As I write I see that a peal of Bob Major has been rung at Accrington, so it seems that this tower has now joined the ranks of the 8-bell towers. Only ten other 6-bell towers have reached double figures, so it is clear that the emphasis in this county is on the higher number of bells. These ten are Brindle (36 peals), Brathay (25), Hawkshead (22), Grassendale (17), Coppull (16), Kirkby Ireleth (13), Bootle (12), and Aughton, St. Michael's, East Crompton and Leyland (11 each). All except two of these towers have appeared in the peal lists since the war. They are Brathay, where the last peal was rung in 1933 (there were two 10,000's here before 1914) and Grassendale (last peal 1927). As a point of interest, it is a 6-bell tower that has been silent for the longest time—Chipping, which has not had a peal this century yet. The last of its seven peals was rung in 1898. Roughtown's only peal was in 1904 and, by the time this article appears, an 8-bell tower will also have been silent for 50 years—Rochdale, St. Alban's.

## VIRGIN TOWERS

On the subject of silent towers, there are eight which are still virgin territory. I need hardly mention the 12 bells of Liverpool Cathedral as being one of them! The others are two eights—Hurst and Lytham R.C. Church; three sixes—Kearsley Moor, Kirkham R.C. Church and Preston, St. Mark's; and two of the three fives—Leck and Thurnham R.C. Church. Downham is the one and only 5-bell tower which has recorded peals (two). Just as the county has the largest number of 8-bell towers for its size, so it has the smallest number of 5-bell towers.

This article concerns peals up to and including those appearing in 'The Ringing World' of February 25th, 1955.

## ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY

### Trying the New Eight at West Bromwich

The March meeting of the Society took place at Christ Church, West Bromwich, on the 19th ult. When the Society last met at Christ Church, in January, 1947, the imposing tower contained a ring of 12 bells, but these were melted down in 1954 and recast into a pleasant toned ring of eight (tenor 25 cwt.).

Ringing during the afternoon and evening was under the direction of Mr. Dennis Holden, Ringing Master. The service was conducted by the Rev. F. W. Jones (Vicar), who, in his address, stated that ringers were stewards who had charge of the old English art of change ringing. It was up to ringers to be worthy of such stewardship especially with regard to the bringing in of new recruits.

Tea was served in the Parish Room, after which the Rev. C. H. Barker, clerical secretary, thanked the Rev. F. W. Jones for taking the service and giving the address, Mr. S. Rogers for playing the organ, and Messrs. D. C. Jinks and F. Barraclough and the lady helpers for arranging the tea.

The attendance of 54 included a pleasing number of young ringers. The next meeting of the Society will be at Rugeley on May 21st.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## THE QUESTION

Dear Sir,—Since Mr. Lack has seen fit to suggest that I do not tell the truth, will you please allow me a little more of your space to reply?

Firstly, let me say that I did not, nor did I suggest, that I had been asked to write to you on behalf of our committee.

I wrote after a discussion over tea (which Mr. Lack did not attend), in which my friends suggested that somebody should write to 'The Ringing World,' state the case and ask for a decision.

Nor did I suggest any 'fiddling.' I only quoted the letter which was read to us from the conductor.

It was obvious that the fourth and maybe some of the other bells did not do as they should have, but it does not alter the FACT that rounds were rung as the conductor tells us.

And that, sir, is all I asked: Is a 'peal' a peal, if rounds accidentally or otherwise come up before the end? I should like to thank Mr. Ayre for his ruling, and should like to refer Mr. Lack, who is a Central Council member, to it.—Yours sincerely,

JOHN E. FOX.

Wisbech.

## 'A RINGER AND HIS OBLIGATIONS'

Dear Sir,—I must say how very much I appreciated your leading article recently, headed 'A Ringer and his Obligations.' It came as a welcome change to the continued assertion of ringers as to 'their rights'—a very prevalent attitude, especially in this atomic age. It seemed to sum up ringers' obligations and to remind us that we have responsibilities as well as privileges. Thank you, Mr. Birmingham, for your article and understanding.—Yours sincerely,

JOHN B. LONG.

Cardington, Beds.

## CONGRATULATIONS AND . . .

Dear Sir,—May I offer congratulations to the Frampton band and their young lady conductor on a very fine achievement, and belatedly but not less warmly to Mr. Blagrove and his band in the Doubles field? These last performances will, I feel, do a lot to clear up the Doubles troubles.

Mr. Blagrove has also done a fine job in his extraction of the c.p.s. Surprise Major methods, despite opinions to the contrary. A quote from the Rev. C. D. P. Davies would not be inapt. 'Bristol . . . its appearance was quite casual . . . an example of certain principles, as one among others of the same class.'

Also, re Doubles methods and Bob Triples, have the Methods Committee really considered these points:—

(1) By in effect putting a ban on certain methods, will they help the growth and establishment of any Sunday service ringing, or the reverse?

(2) Do they not realise that when a Doubles text book is issued, then the variations and admixtures will be all but forgotten in 5-7 years? There are more ways than one of silencing cats, strange as it may seem.

Finally, have I any support yet for my opposition to the practice of having the 6th in 5ths in Major compositions? I contend that, there being little interval between 6 and 7, the rows with that pair behind sound very flat and take away much of the sparkle and life from the ringing.—Yours sincerely,

D. A. FRITH.

Grantham.

[Note.—There is no ban on what a band cares to ring. The only restriction is when they desire to call their performance a peal recognised by the Central Council.—Ed.]

## REV. F. E. ROBINSON'S LAST PEALS

Dear Sir,—Replying to Mr. E. J. Rowe about the late Rev. F. E. Robinson's last peals, it is true that in his book, 'Among the Bells,' his last peal is given as being rung at Devizes, and after that he resigned the living of Drayton and came to live at Wokingham.

He used to come regularly to practise with us at All Saints', and he told me himself that he hoped to be able to ring a few more peals of Stedman Triples in towers with a light octave. I am not sure how many he did complete (I believe one was rung at Cranleigh in Surrey), but his last was definitely at St. Andrew's, Uxbridge, in January, 1910.

I myself went with him on two occasions to Aldermaston when his memory failed with the calling and he set his bell somewhere near the half-way. It may not be generally known that a few days after the Uxbridge peal he was taking Sunday duty in bitter weather at a church near Reading, where he caught a chill and developed pneumonia, from which he did not recover.

These are a few facts I am able to remember after 45 years.—Yours, etc.,

W. J. PAICE.

Wokingham.

## THREE SURVIVORS OF LAST PEAL

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. E. J. Rowe's query in 'The Ringing World' of March 18th, the Rev. F. E. Robinson rang at least 12 peals, all Stedman Triples, after his serious illness.

After the peal at Devizes on May 16th, 1908, there was a period of some months during which he rang no peals. A note in 'The Bell News,' February 13th, 1909, announced his return to peal ringing after his restoration to health, and following is a list of peals rung by him, on light octaves, mostly in the Oxford diocese:—

Clanfield, Oxon, February 9th, 1909.

Slough, Bucks, April 12th, 1909.

Old Windsor, Berks, May 22nd, 1909.

Farnham Royal, Bucks, May 31st, 1909.

Wraysbury, Bucks, August 2nd, 1909.

Clanfield, Oxon, October 13th, 1909.

Southleigh, Oxon, October 29th, 1909.

Shipton-under-Wychwood, Oxon, November 5th, 1909.

Old Windsor, Berks, December 27th, 1909.

Hughenden, Bucks, January 1st, 1910.

Southleigh, Oxon, January 5th, 1910.

Hillingdon West, Middlesex, January 15th, 1910.

This last was his 1,250th and last peal. It was an excellent one, which he appreciated and thanked the band for their careful ringing.

The Rev. 'F. E.' did not ring peals in Lent, which season soon followed his last peal, but Mr. R. Buckland, of Beaconsfield, who had arranged several of these peals, was arranging for more attempts to be made after Easter. This was not to be, for Mr. Robinson died suddenly, his funeral taking place at Wokingham, Berks, on February 19th, 1911.

The tablet at Hillingdon, mentioned by Mr. Rowe, was made by Mr. Buckland, and was written by Mr. W. Lawrence, who also rang in the peal. Three members of the band are still active ringers—R. Buckland (Beaconsfield), R. H. Young (Harlow Common) and W. Welling (Old Windsor).

The new Master of the Oxford Guild, the late Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, performed the dedication and proceeded to call a peal of Stedman Triples, the band, with one exception, being those who rang in the previous peal.—Yours sincerely,

W. WELLING.

Old Windsor.

## R.A.F. RINGERS

Dear Sir,—With reference to the letter of L.A.C. Fox in your issue of February 25th, it is of interest to note that during my National Service I met only three ringers stationed at camps where I was stationed. However, I did meet other R.A.F. ringers by arrangement.

Mr. Fox may like to know that there is a R.A.F. Guild of Ringers in existence, but it is nearly dead. Briefly, its history is as follows. In 1948 some ringers found themselves stationed together at Yatesbury, and they formed a band in order to visit local churches. I am not sure, but I believe a peal was rung in the district by this band. When these ringers were posted to Cranwell they formed the R.A.F. Cranwell Society, and on October 12th, 1948, a handbell peal was rung for this Society and the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

The Cranwell ringers had the idea of forming the R.A.F. Society (later Guild) of Ringers and the first meeting was held at Edmonton, Middlesex, on June 4th, 1949. The late Eric Dench was elected Ringing Master, Alan Rogers elected secretary and Mr. R. E. Manton elected treasurer. As the secretary encountered so many initial difficulties, this is as far as the Guild has progressed, and it is now more or less asleep.

I saw Mr. Rogers in January and discussed the situation with him. We decided that whilst such a Guild would be a fine thing to have, it seemed impracticable to run it. Only twelve people joined it in 1949, and we realise that so much secretarial work would have to be done for so little a result if the Guild was re-formed. We felt that it could do little to help R.A.F. ringers get together because of expense of travel and of restricted and ever uncertain off duty times, and that if a R.A.F. ringer wanted ringing he could find it through the territorial societies. I believe Mr. Rogers is considering disbanding the R.A.F. Guild, but should your correspondent care to write to him, his address is 5, Lawrie Park Road, Sydenham, London, S.E.26.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN S. BARNES.

Attleborough, Norfolk.

## PEAL RINGING IN KENT

Dear Sir,—The Rev. K. W. H. Felstead's article may be interesting, but it leaves a false impression of Kent peal ringing. For instance, the 10-bell tower of Cudham is credited with 17 peals. They were not all on 10 bells, neither was anyone from Cudham in any one of them. (I believe it is correct to say that there has never been anything more than desultory call changes from any band that has been formed there.)

I suspect it would need no great mental effort to add up the towers in the county that have rung even a small proportion of their totals with their own bands.—Yours faithfully,

C. CULLEN.

Farnborough, Kent.

## 5,184 Kent Treble Bob Major

By MAURICE HODGSON  
23456 M I O V W H

43526 2 — — 2 2  
24365 2 — — 2 2

P.L. 3254867

Rung at Brentwood, Essex, on December 4th, 1954, conducted by Harry Turner.

Believed to be the first peal of Major in a Treble Bob method in six parts called alike.



## LETTERS—Continued

## A SPLENDID FIRST TWO YEARS

Dear Sir,—Just over two years ago you were good enough to publish a report of the dedication of our new ring of six bells at Wanlip, Leicestershire, followed a year ago with details of the formation of the Wanlip Parish Church Guild of Bellringers at their first annual meeting.

Some of your readers may remember these items and perhaps wonder what progress has been made by a band 'starting from scratch,' so I take the liberty of sending to you a brief survey of the progress and policy of this Guild, which may be of some help to other towers.

Wanlip has a population of about 100 folk, and the church plays an active part in the affairs of the villagers. It was not difficult to recruit volunteers for the belfry, and all have so far made the grade. When the writer was appointed the tower's first captain he had at his disposal seven or eight keen members, whose ages ranged from 16 to 36.

A steady progress was made, both in striking and in the variety of methods rung, and the attendance for the first year averaged over 80 per cent. Grandsire and Bob Doubles were left behind in the search for new methods, and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor with occasional Double Court have been firm favourites during recent months. But the great day arrived only several weeks ago, when after weeks of patient practice, we added Cambridge Surprise Minor to our list of Sunday service methods.

All this has been accomplished by the original band, but the question of recruits has not been neglected. Apart from the Friday practice, one night each week is set aside for the teaching of learners, with the bells lashed, and supervised on a rota basis by senior members of the band. Four choirboys have so far been started, and if this scheme is given the attention in future years which it must have, then the future of the Guild will never be in doubt. One of these boys has passed his probationary period in handling, rising and falling in theory and attendance. He has been made a member of the Guild and can now ring 'inside' to Bob Minor.

Practices are for 1½ hours and always close with prayers led by the captain. Service ringing is for 45 minutes, and for the monthly morning Communion service a quarter peal is attempted, again on a rota basis as far as possible.

The ringers' own bell fund has been started and all moneys received for ringing at weddings is deposited in this fund together with each member's weekly voluntary contribution.

Officers, i.e., captain, vice-captain, secretary, treasurer and tower keeper, are elected at each annual meeting under the chairmanship of the Rector, together with new members. The duties of each officer are defined in the minute book, and a report is made by each, annually. The captain also reports on progress to the annual meeting of the Parochial Church Council. A half-yearly meeting is held in the summer, and any ideas, outings, etc., are discussed. A Guild service is held annually.

Two outings around the county were arranged last year and the enjoyment of both was shared by ringers from other towers.

One peal of Treble Bob has been rung on the bells by the local band with the addition of Mr. Ernest Morris, who 'completed his circle' of towers in Leicestershire with this peal.

The two years have not been without their setbacks. National Service has claimed one member and will take more in the near future. Our only lady member has entered a teachers' training college in London, and vital examinations claim some part of certain younger members' evenings. But with God's blessing and

## OUR 'RINGING WORLD'

*Within the last month my daily paper—and it is a reputable one—has told the country that the miner's pay will be increased by £13 million (good luck to them, they deserve every penny); building trade workers by £20 million; farmers' guarantees by £28 million; and the engineers by £70 million.*

*I know of very few, if any, these days who do not have either a smoke or a drink, and the Government receives annually £30 million to £40 million from betting—so someone has a shilling or two on.*

*National Savings reported last week totalled £28,206,000; whilst last year shareholders' and depositors' funds in British Building Societies had increased by £219 million.*

*Well, what's the inference?*

*Well, then, someone quibbles about the price of 'OUR' 'Ringing World' at 6d., the price of three cigarettes; he says, 'if it continues at 6d. we may find some will cancel—many will share'; threepence each way, what a thought, perhaps the wish is father to it.*

*Then he advocates penalising the peal ringers, the backbone of the Exercise, and many of them do pay for their peals.*

*I am not a Central Council representative but am a 'Ringing World' representative—hence these few observations—and I am sure those who appointed me to that office did not desire me to agitate for a reduction in the price of our paper. Practically all papers and periodicals have increased their price—they have had to do to keep pace with increased cost of production.*

*I wonder what few there are dissatisfied with the price of 'The Ringing World' do not suggest petitioning the Government for a subsidy.*

*Well—well—well, what a mate to go on a ringers' outing with.*

*Time people—especially Church people—had progressed beyond the sixpenny, let alone the fourpenny and threepenny stage; which might have been all right when I came out of my time when I received as a journeyman the princely sum of 24s. a week.*

*Moral: there is only one alternative to paying for your own sport—or pleasure—that is leaving it alone.—F. S.*

the continued loyalty of all members of the Guild, Wanlip must remain what it has become in such a short period—one of Leicestershire's most active and progressive six-bell towers.

Perhaps the success so far has been due to the policy of recruiting members from inside the church, for all the members perform some other duty either as lay readers, choristers, servers or members of the Parochial Church Council, and thereby helping to promote a spirit of fellowship within the Guild to the glory of God and not to the glory of individual stardom.—Yours faithfully,

THOMAS C. BELTON, Captain,  
Wanlip Parish Church Guild of Bellringers.

## SURREY ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting was held at Reigate on March 19th at which approximately 50 members and visitors attended. A service was conducted by the curate in which he gave the Association a very warm welcome and an interesting address.

At the business meeting all the retiring officers were re-elected. The secretary, in presenting the committee's report, drew attention to the difficulty experienced in collecting subscriptions and asked for co-operation. Although only 20 peals had been rung during 1954 the range was fairly wide, extending from Doubles to Maximus.

The Master, Mr. R. Davies, spoke on the dinner to be held on May 21st, and asked everyone to attend and help make it a success.

Mr. J. Euston spoke on his letter which appeared in the previous day's 'Ringing World' concerning the finances of 'our paper,' and his suggestion of a peal fee of 3d. per rope. This produced a fairly lively discussion which appeared to be strongly against the suggestion, but when he moved the proposal 'that our Central Council representatives should bring this forward at Bristol,' voting gave only a small balance against it, with some abstentions.

The meeting was advised of the illness of three of its members—Mr. W. H. Passmore, Mr. F. J. Sanders and Mr. F. W. Wicks. (Mr. Sanders has since passed away.)

After hearty votes of thanks to the Vicar, the organist, Miss B. Sagers (for arranging the tea) and Mr. G. Hood for having everything in order at the tower, the meeting closed.

Ringing continued until 8.30 p.m. at Reigate under the direction of the Master, and ranged from rounds to Cambridge Royal and London Major. Some members also visited nearby Redhill, where the bells were also available in the evening.

## CENTRAL COUNCIL REVIEW

Mr. E. A. Barnett, hon. secretary and treasurer of the Council, desires to make, with apologies, the following correction to 'Reports adopted by the Council which are still current.' On page 186, column 2, Note should read as follows:—

In 1952 (2) (b), (c) and (d) above were modified in respect of Doubles methods only, as follows:—

(b) No bell shall strike more than four consecutive blows in any one place, such four consecutive blows to occur only when the treble is at the front or at the back.

(c) As far as possible there shall be as many leads in the plain course as there are working bells, but this requirement to be relaxed to include single-hunt methods which have three leads in the plain course.

(d) The working bells need not be in the same coursing order at each lead head and end in the plain course.

## LADIES' GUILD AT WROTHAM

A meeting of the Kent Branch was held at St. George's, Wrotham, on March 19th. There were few ringers present in spite of the sunny afternoon, but at least there were visitors from as far apart as Folkestone and Coventry.

The Rector conducted the service in the Lady Chapel, followed by tea and a business meeting at the Pilgrims' Rest.

Methods rung were Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent, the fine tone of the eight being much appreciated. N. T.



# RANDOM THOUGHTS ON BOB MAJOR

By H. CHANT

(Continued from page 190)

A glance at the 'Wrong' transposition (35426) informs the wavering student of his next step and saves him having to do any transposition either mental or otherwise.

The course 35426 is treated in exactly the same way as its predecessor. The 'Wrong' transposition returns us to the plain course (23456) and we complete the proof by surrounding the last six leads by a rectangle.

I would again draw the student's attention to the fact already mentioned, that three complete courses have been used, so that if you know your onions (like the professor and me) a mere glance at the course ends would have been sufficient proof.

Now try your hand in proving—both by figures and the chart—(say) Before and 3 Homes. Follow this by another Before and 3 Homes and notice in the figure proof where the falseness occurs. Check this from the chart.

Next try W, 3 Bofores, M and H on the chart and notice how single leads are picked in the centre of certain courses when the 'Bofores' are taking place.

Finally try a 'Bob Course,' i.e., W, 5ths and 4ths, M, and H, and notice how the 1st, 2nd, 6th and 7th leads are taken from different courses. Remember that a lead has been rung that doesn't appear on the chart.

The student need not lose any sleep about this lead, because providing the rest of the proof is correct and the tenors have been 'kept together' there is no fear of falseness occurring.

## COMPOSITION

The method of using the chart for this purpose is identical with that given on previous pages by using figures (see 'the four stages of decline'). The chart, however, accomplishes the task much simpler and, of course, no proof is needed as repetition of rows is impossible.

Start by drawing a rectangle round the plain course. This is the round block that we are going to extend, and we extend it by interpolating two courses at once. If we decide to interpolate two courses at (say) the 'Wrong' position we draw a line across the plain course between the 1st and 2nd lead. Here is the Plain Course treated thus on the chart:—

A glance at the 'W' transposition gives 52436. Take this course and treat it in exactly the same way, i.e., surround it by a rectangle and draw a line across at the 'W' position at the same time noting the 'W' transposition in this course, which is 35426. Again the same silly business. Treat this in exactly the same way.

An inspection of the 'W' transposition of the last course (35426) shows us that our insertion is complete as it shows the transposition 23456, which is the course from which we started to push in the two extra courses.

An insertion can be made at student's choice at the 'Middle' position in either of these three courses. Take (say) the course 52436 and draw a line between the 6th and 7th leads noting the M transposition 42635. Surround this course (42635) with a rectangle and with a line drawn across it at the M position. Directed by the transposition treat 62534 in the same silly manner. (Note that this directs a return to 52436, so that our insertion is complete.)

Bobs 'Home' are even more simple.

If any single course of a group of three has been used and the other two have not been used, mark the bottom line with a little squiggle (or write the word 'Bob'—personally I prefer the squiggle), surround the two compatriots with a rectangle and put a squiggle at the bottom of each.

e.g. Select (say) 52436 and squiggle the bottom. Surround (I nearly wrote encircle; but can one encircle with a rectangle?) courses 45236 and 24536, not forgetting to squiggle the bottom lines, and two more courses are 'composed'!

Transferring the 'composition' to paper usually takes longer, and is more tedious, than composing the touch or peal. Start from rounds and proceed until you arrive at a call which will be denoted by a line across the course. The line, in this case, proves to be the Bob W, therefore mark down a 'W' and continue, as directed, down the course 52436 from the W position. A line across the M shows that a Bob has been used; therefore, mark an M on your paper and continue down the course 42635 from the M position.

The reason for the squiggle will now be clear (even to the professor who is by this time consumed with envy), for without it we should not know whether or not to move to the next course on the right (see Rule II.). In this case there is no squiggle, therefore there is no Bob and we start (on paper) our second course from the top of 42635.

After working through the exercise we find that our 'touch' is W. 3M. 3H. 2W. the 4th stage of decline mentioned earlier.

In 'composing' extended peals direct, with the tenors together, some difficulty may be experienced on the chart when it comes to fitting in the last few groups of courses. However, with a little experience and practice, erasing and altering the end may be accomplished. In any case it is far easier on the chart than by figures and once fitted in there is no need to prove the peal as its proof is self-evident. An ordinary length peal (5,000 odd) takes only a few minutes (with practice) and the extent direct with the tenors together between 15 and 30 minutes. (Quicker if you are lucky—like me—longer if unlucky (like the professor).)

After getting used to the chart, concentrate on producing musical peals. Few peals are published nowadays without some qualifying footnote such as '6th extent in 6th' or 'full combination of 4-5-6 in 5-6.'

That simple extensions have possibilities may be seen from the two following—both produced from the chart:—

5,040				5,152			
23456	W	M	H	23456	W	M	H
26354	2	—	—	64235	—	—	—
46253	2	—	—	24536	—	—	—
25463	—	—	—	54632	—	—	—
42563	3	—	—	26435	—	—	—
54263	—	—	—	43265	—	—	—
63254	2	—	2	24365	—	—	—
34256	—	2	—	32465	—	—	—
32546	—	2	—	46325	—	—	—
62345	—	2	3	34625	—	—	—
63425	—	2	3	63425	—	—	—
43526	—	3	—	42635	—	—	—
46325	2	—	—	62534	—	—	—
43265	—	2	—	52436	—	—	—
23564	—	3	—	43526	—	—	—
53462	—	3	—	54326	—	—	—
24365	—	—	—	35426	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—	42356	—	—	—
52436	—	2	—	34256	—	—	—
45236	3	—	—	25346	—	—	—
23456	3	—	—	32546	—	—	—
				57246	—	—	—
6th extent each way				45236	—		
in 5-6.				32456	—	S	
5th extent in 5ths.							

Repeated.

6th extent in 6ths.

5th 18 times in 6ths.

Although I suppose many 2-part peals have been composed as pure extensions (and rung), yet I cannot find one in the C.C. Collection. So you see, dear student, much still remains to be done, new fields to conquer, new paths to tread, etc., etc., etc.! Notice large chunks of extension such as:—

Peal 190 from the 10th course to the end of the part.

Peal 177 from the 9th course to the end of the part.

Peal 178 from the 1st course to the 25th course.

Peal 80 (1st) with the exception of the last Bob H.

Peal 80 (2nd) with the exception of the Bob H in the 6th course.

If these two (80 No. 1 and 80 No. 2) were written out in full it would be found that the whole peal could be regarded as an extension.

This leads our thoughts into another channel so put on your waders and let us consider means whereby we can extend an extension from a simple round block into a complete peal by means of:—

## SHUNT BOBS

As one can see from the brackets this touch is a mere extension; therefore, we know that it requires no proof other than seeing that the course-ends (or course-heads if, unlike me, you are a purist) are different.

A Bob 'Middle' inserted into one of these 9 courses would mean that the two bells unaffected by the call would be at 'Home' at the end of the ninth course. The other three bells would, however, be away from 'Home.' (On holiday, if you like.)

e.g. If a Bob 'M' is called in the first course, the two bells unaffected by the Bob (2-3 in this case) will be at Home at the end of the 9th course. This course end will now be 23645 instead of 23456. The whole nine courses could therefore be twice repeated before the round block was completed.

Imagine three complete round blocks (or write them out if your imagination is unequal to the task), each called exactly as above, i.e., W 3 H, W 3 H, W 3 H, the first beginning and ending 23456, the second 23645 and the third 23564.

The effect of the Bob 'Middle' is to shunt the composition from a point in one round block to a corresponding point in another. That is why (I suppose) it is called a shunt Bob and not because you 'shunt' ring it!

(I couldn't resist that in order to annoy the professor, who is by now becoming slightly bored.)

There is no need to write out the whole composition in order to prove it, but the procedure is as follows:—

Concentrate on the 'fixed' bells, i.e., those unaffected by the Shunt Bob which are at Home at the part-end (as it now called), 2-3 if the Bob is called in the first course. Observe that they do not fall twice in the same relative positions in any of the course-ends (heads) employed in the original round block.

This is the way I usually do it, so (of course) the student may be assured it is infallible.

Take the second.

In course 1 it is in 2nds place while the other fixed bell (the 3rd) is in 3rds place. Check down the remaining courses to see if there is another course-end (head) with it (the 2nd) in 2nds place. Yes, the 3rd. Now check the position of the 3rd: this is now in 5ths. (Breathe again.) You can, if you like, tick off these two courses to show that they are clear.

(Continued on page 206)



## OBITUARY

### MR. E. J. HARDING

Fulmer, Bucks, has lost a devoted servant of God and a keen bellringer for over 60 years by the death of Mr. Edward James Harding, at the age of 87 years.

A large congregation paid their last tribute at the funeral service on March 23rd. The Rector (the Rev. Rex E. Lloyd) spoke in affectionate terms of Mr. Harding's character and services to the church—he was vergar and sexton for 15 years, retiring only three years ago. At the organ was Mr. Selly, who for 50 years was organist of St. James' Church, Fulmer.

The bells were rung half-muffled before and after the service by Mrs. M. Bowerman (née Gutteridge), Miss. F. Gudgen, Mr. and Mrs. G. Swift, W. Welling, T. H. Winyard and W. W. Wolstencroft. W. W. W.

### MR. HENRY WILLIAMS

Mr. Henry Williams, of Truro, who died on March 15th, was Cornwall's oldest method ringer. He began his ringing career in the early 1890's under the late Dr. John Symons with the progressive band at St. Mary's, Penzance, and was a member of that band until 1904, when the bells were condemned. The activities of this band can be recalled by the fact that during the first seven months of 1904, at the end of which ringing was stopped, an aggregate of 34,560 changes had been rung in completed touches, and including seven quarter peals.

Soon after this he went to Canada, but returned to live in retirement at Truro in 1930. He at once took up ringing enthusiastically with the keen young Cathedral band, and at the age of 66 rang his first peal, one of Bob Minor, at Kenwyn Church, in 1931. This was followed in the same year by a peal of Grandsire Caters at the Cathedral, when eight members of the band were assisted by the late Charles R. Lilley and Thomas G. Myers, from Plymouth.

Other interesting peals in which he rang were Bob Major on the back eight at Truro Cathedral, and Grandsire Triples at Lanheddrock by eight members of the Cathedral band which was the first peal by a band from one tower in Cornwall for 51 years, the previous being at his old tower of St. Mary's, Penzance, in 1883. Both these peals were in 1934.

In the five years until he was 70 he rang 13 peals as follows:—Minor 2, Triples 7, Major 2, Caters 2. All this interest, activity and help he was ready to give to younger people was backed up by regular attendance for service and practice ringing. Like many of this grand old type of ringer the war years put an end to their ringing, and Henry was too old to start again regularly when the ban was lifted. He lived to the ripe old age of 90.

A peal attempt having been arranged at Carbis Bay for March 19th, this was rung half-muffled to his memory, and an excellent peal that would have rejoiced his heart in every way was rung.

## Random Thoughts on Bob Major — Continued

In the 2nd course the 2nd bell is in 4ths and the 3rd bell in 5ths, whereas the next time the 2nd is in 4ths (the 9th course), the 3rd is in 2nds place.

Checking through like this only takes a few seconds. Notice that if a Bob 'Middle' is called in the 5th course the 2nd and 3rd will also be unaffected by this one too.

The choice of the fixed bells depends upon the musical qualities required in the peal (or touch), and this latter end must also be kept in view when constructing the extension. (See peals 40 (a and b) and 41 C.C. Collection, the first a 9 and the second an 11 course extension.)

(To be continued)

## NEXT WEEK'S PUBLICATION

Because of Good Friday the next issue of 'The Ringing World' will be in subscribers' hands by Thursday morning, April 7th. The advancement of press day by 24 hours means that the latest time Notices can be received for publication in this issue is first post Monday, April 4th.

## NOTICES

### Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s. 6d.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

From the Southern District of the Ladies' Guild to their vice-president, Mrs. A. C. Hazelden. 6099

### FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE

The marriage will take place on Saturday, April 2nd, at 2.30 p.m., at All Saints' Church, Hampreston, Dorset, between Ivor H. Trueman and Heather J. Tesson. All friends welcome at the church. Future address: Roxburgh, Clifton Down, Bristol 8. 6086

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mr. V. A. Hemming is now 143, Welford Road, Shirley, near Birmingham. Telephone Shirley 4762. 6071

### PUBLICATION

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, 67a, The Close, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—There will be no practice at St. Martins-in-the-Fields on Wednesday, April 6th (Holy Week).—Peter N. Bond, Hon. Sec. 6091

**SANDY, BEDS.** — Ringing has been suspended until further notice owing to extensive repairs to the tower. 6079

**EXTRA COPIES.**—It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals is submitted.

**PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS** can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

### MEETINGS

**BEVERLEY AND DISTRICT R.S.**—Meeting at Rise, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (5) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea in Memorial Hall 5 p.m. (price 2s.). Names for tea to Mr. C. W. Gray-Nicholson, Hinds House, Park Farm, Rise, Skirlaugh, Hull. 6083

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ely District. — Meeting at Doddington on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—R. J. Housden, Dis. Sec. 6041

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South Western.—North Ockendon April 2nd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea to Mr. W. Carter, Clay Tye Road, North Ockendon. 6010

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Chertsey District. — Meeting, Walton-on-Thames, Saturday, April 2nd. Handbells 2.30. Bells 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting follow in hall.—R. Collins, Dis. Sec. 6037

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.** — Tonbridge District.—Quarterly meeting, Brencley, Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (2s.) 5 p.m. Names, with cash, please, to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue, Sevenoaks. 5961

**SALISBURY GUILD.**—Dorchester Branch. —Meeting, Puddletown (6), April 2nd. Usual arrangements.—Haine, Sec., Abbotsbury. 6038

**SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Meeting, Conisbrough, April 2nd, 3 p.m.—J. Seager, Sec. 6039

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.** — Business meeting, Ship, Talbot Court, E.C., Saturday, April 9th, 6 p.m.—A. B. Peck. 6090

**BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—Meeting at Royston, April 9th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30. Names for tea must be sent, not later than April 6th, to Mr. F. Mitchell, Stafford House, Church Street, Royston, near Barnsley.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec. 6097

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Woburn on Easter Eve, April 9th, at 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service 6 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. D. Harris, 37, Leighton Street, Woburn, Bletchley, Bucks.—D. Knox, Dis. Sec. 6094

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Prescott Parish Church on Saturday, April 9th. Bells open 2.30. Service 4.30 followed by tea and meeting. There will be a charge of 1s. 6d. per head for tea, and names must be sent to Mr. W. C. Finney, 100, Thomas Drive, Prescott.—P. W. Cave, Hon. Sec. 6069

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.** — Winchester District. — Quarterly meeting, April 9th, Micheldever. Bells (6) 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Village Hall. Names, by previous Wednesday, to Mr. J. A. C. King, 21, St. Faith's Road, Winchester. 6093

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.** — Annual general meeting, Yeovil, on Easter Monday, April 11th. Ringing at St. John's 11. Service at 12 noon. Luncheon, limited to 100, for ticket holders only. Applications for tickets, enclosing stamped addressed envelope, to R. O. Fry, 5, Morford Street, Bath. Ringing: East Coker, 11-11.45, 7-8; Hardington, 10.30-11.30, 5.30-7; Martock, 10.30-11.30, 5.30-7; Drayton, 10.30-11.15, 6-7.30; Somerton, 10.30-11.30, 6-7.30; West Coker, 6-7. More towers to be announced at the meeting. 6067

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting, Bedford, Easter Monday. Lunch 1 p.m. at Dujon followed by meeting. St. Paul's (majestic ring of 10) 10.30 a.m.-12.30 and 5.30 onwards; St. Peter's, Bedford (8), and Clapham (6) 3-4.30. All ringers most welcome. Names for lunch, please, to Mr. J. W. Sinfild, 4, Queen Street, Houghton Regis, Beds. 5982

**CUMBERLAND AND NORTH WEST-MORLAND ASSOCIATION.**—Annual general meeting, Workington, Easter Monday. Bells (8) available 1.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.30. followed by meeting. Names for tea, by April 6th, to Mr. J. McTear, 26, Findley Place, Workington.—J. W. Brownrigg, Hon. Sec. 6095



**DEVONSHIRE GUILD.** — East Devon Branch. — Annual, Ottery St. Mary, Easter Monday. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business meeting after. Names for tea not later than April 8th.—J. Arbury, Belmont, Ottery St. Mary. 6072

**EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting to be held at Morton on Easter Monday, April 11th, Bells 2. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Miners' Welfare Hall. Business meeting afterwards. Names to G. Holdgate, 5, Sitwell Villas, Morton, near Chesterfield, Derbyshire.—B. A. Sollis, Hon. Sec. 6075

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Annual general meeting at Huntingdon on Easter Monday. Bells available: Holywell (6) 10 a.m.-12 noon; St. Ives (8) 10-12; Houghton (5) 12-1.30; Hemingford Abbots (5) 12-1.30; Godmanchester (8) 1-3.30 and after tea; Huntingdon, All Saints' (6) 2-4.30 and after tea; Huntingdon, St. Mary's (8) 2-4 and after tea. Other towers can be used after tea by arrangement. Service, Huntingdon, All Saints', 4.30. Tea, followed by business meeting, All Saints' Parish Hall, 5 p.m. — W. J. Ridgman, Gen. Sec. 6087

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION** — 75th anniversary meeting, Maidstone, Easter Monday. Service 12 noon. Lunch at Star Hotel 1 p.m. Tickets from Mr. F. M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend. Members 4s. (in advance). Others 6s. Towers open: Aylesford, Barming, Bearstead, Boxley, Lenham, 10 a.m.; All Saints', Maidstone, 10.30 a.m. Also after meeting together with East Farleigh, Harrietsham, Leeds, Mereworth, Wateringbury, West Malling and Wrotham.—E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, London Road, Ditton, Maidstone. 6077

#### A NEW QUARTER

This is the first issue of the new quarter. May we remind quarterly postal subscribers that their subscription (7s.) is now due, and prompt payment to Mr. J. E. Jeate, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall, facilitates the clerical work at this office.

The time is opportune for new subscribers to be enrolled. Rates 7s. quarterly; 13s. 6d. half-yearly; £1 6s. for 12 months.

**LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, at Llandaff. Bells (10) 2.30. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea and business meeting to follow. Names for tea, by April 5th, to F. J. Hannington, 32, Surrey Street, Canton, Cardiff. 6045

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Annual general meeting, Ipswich, Easter Monday. Bells from 10 a.m. Committee meeting, St. Mary-le-Tower vestry, 11 a.m. No lunch arranged. Business meeting, St. Stephen's Hall, 2 p.m. Usual towers.—C. W. Pipe. 6100

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.** — Annual meeting at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 11th. Service in All Saints' at 11 a.m. General business meeting in College Hall at 12 noon. Coffee

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#### SERVICE of DEDICATION

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available in College Hall 1-2 p.m. Tea arranged at 5 p.m. for those who notify me by Wednesday, April 6th. Bells available: Cathedral (12)—provisionally—6-7.30 p.m.; All Saints' (10), St. John's (8), 2.30-4.30; Claines (10) and Kempsey (6) 2-4.30 p.m. — J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham. 6085

**DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Annual meeting, Saturday, April 16th. Committee 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., Cathedral. Tea 5 p.m. General meeting 5.45 p.m., Diocesan House. Ringing arrangements: St. Andrew's (10) 2-4 p.m.; St. Peter's (8) 2.30-4.15 and 6.30-8; Cathedral (10) 3-4.30 and 6.30-8. — A. B. Cooper. 6084

**EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.** — Annual at East Grinstead, April 16th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 followed by business meeting in Small Parish Hall. Names, by April 14th, to Miss K. Shepherd, 32, Cantelupe Road.—C. A. Bassett. 6080

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—N.W. District.—Meeting at Stansted Mountfitchet (8) on Saturday, April 16th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names, please, to G. Blake, Dis. Sec., Hamlet House, Roydon Hamlet, Harlow, Essex. 6081

**GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general business meeting at Tewkesbury Abbey on Saturday, April 16th, at 2 p.m. sharp, at the British Legion Club. Tea 2s. 6d. Divine service at 6 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify, not later than April 13th, Mr. J. Beech, The Pump House, Berrow, near Malvern, Worcs. The Abbey bells (12) will be available from 12 noon and again after the service. The following rings are being made available from 10 a.m. to 12 noon: Bishop's Cleeve (8), The Leigh, Combe Hill (6), Deerhurst (6) and Ashchurch (6).—F. Skidmore, Gen. Sec. 6074

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting, Watford, Saturday, April 16th. St. Mary's (10) 3-8.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 at Parish Hall. Business includes Bob Triples peals and Mr. B. Barker's pro-

positions. Ringing also at Abbots Langley 10-12; Langleybury; Rickmansworth 11.30-1; Aldenham 2-3.45; Bushey 2-4. Evening ringing as required. Names for tea, by 13th, to R. G. Bell, 131, Hampermill Lane, Watford.—H. V. Frost, Hon. Gen. Sec. 6098

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Lincolnshire District.—Annual meeting at Wasingborough, near Lincoln, on Saturday, April 16th. Bells at 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45. Names for tea, not later than Tuesday, April 12th, to Mrs. A. Richardson, Glyn Garth, Surfleet, Spalding, Lincs. 6092

**LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual general meeting at Leicester on Saturday, April 16th. Ringing at St. Saviour's 10.30 to 11.30; St. John's 11.30 to 12.30. Details of afternoon ringing, service and tea next week.—W. A. Wood, Gen. Sec. 6078

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Western Branch.—Interim meeting at Bircham, Saturday, April 16th. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to Rev. E. M. J. Cornish, Bircham Rectory, King's Lynn.—C. Tovell, Hon. Sec. 6096

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Banbury Branch.—Quarterly at Shenington (5), Saturday, April 16th. Service 4. Tea 4.45.—E. C. Pearson, Adderbury West, Oxon. 6076

**SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual meeting at Southwell, Saturday, April 16th. Ringing at Minster from 2.30. Averham (6) available 2-4.30. Evensong in Minster 3.15. Tea for those who notify, by previous Wednesday, Mr. Fred Pickard, 47, Westgate, Southwell. Business meeting after tea.—J. W. Raithby. 6088

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.** — N. District.—Quarterly meeting at Banstead, Saturday, April 16th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names, by April 13th, to Mr. H. N. Pitstow, Salford, High Street, Banstead.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec. 6068

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—Quarterly meeting and Six-Bell Contest at Marsden, April 23rd (10-cwt. tenor). For tea please notify, by April 16th, D. B. Cater, Newlands, 7, Lane Ings, Marsden.—A. Farrand, Hon. Sec. 6060

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—The annual dinner will be held on Saturday, October 1st, 1955, at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn. Tickets, price 13s. each, now available from the undersigned; early application is advised.—P. N. Bond, Gaywood, Stocks Green Road, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent. 6066

#### EXETER CATHEDRAL BELLS

The Exeter Cathedral bells will be available for Easter and after, having been silent for some five months whilst repairs to the tower were effected.

After Easter it is hoped to carry on with normal ringing, that is the third Saturday at 6 p.m., the third Sunday at 1.45, when all visitors are welcome. The first Monday in the month is a practice solely for Cathedral members.

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Rung at Birmingham Cathedral, January 13th, 1955.

EFTHAM, KENT.—On Mar. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Hurrell 1, E. Coode (first of Triples) 2, F. Hurrell 3, T. Easterby 4, F. Richardson (cond.) 5, E. B. Crowder 6, J. Hurrell 7, J. Sims 8. Birthday compliments to Miss Brenda Slark and Mrs. J. Dafters.

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